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LOCAL NOTICES.

Bear This in Mind.
The place to purchase all genuine drugs, patent medicines, perfumeries, fine toilet soaps, &c., at *lowest possible prices*, is at Jos. Fleming's, 84 Market street, corner Diamond.

The Best.
Burnett cologne, cocoaine and flavoring extracts, are the standard preparations. Try them. Sold cheapest at Jos. Fleming's, 84 Market street, corner of the Diamond.

R. E. Breed & Co.
Have the latest designs of silver plated ware. Call and examine their variety, at 109 Wood street.

At 100 Wood Street,
Can be found the latest designs, plain, elaborate and elegant patterns, of silver plated ware. R. E. Breed & Co.

Save Money
By advertising judiciously through Messrs. Griffin & Hoffman, advertising agents, No. 1 St. Paul street, Baltimore. Send for estimates and information. They furnish copies of all papers for which they contract regularly during the period of said contracts, without extra charge. Pittsburgh references: Jno. D. Scully, Cashier First National Bank, and T. B. Young & Co. tf

Silver Plated Ware.
The latest designs, plain, elaborate and elegant patterns, at R. E. Breed & Co.'s., 109 Wood street.

Aniline Dyes.
We have just received a large invoice of these dyes, comprising all the popular colors, including Solferine, blue and green and are prepared to sell them very low.
McCLARAN & McKENNAN,
Druggists, 85 Market street, corner Diamond, near Fifth avenue.

W. D. Duffey,
Merchant Tailor, No. 24 Fifth avenue, Pittsburgh. tf

China Ware.
A large assortment, embracing every variety of recent patterns, at R. E. Breed & Co's, 109 Wood street.

China Ware.
The newest patterns; elegant tea sets; an unlimited assortment of every article on China ware at R. E. Breed & Co.'s, 109 Wood street.

B. L. Fahnestock's Lung Syrup.
A scientific preparation put up in a neat and attractive style. It may be administered with safety to delicate persons or children. It does not give satisfaction after a fair trial the money will be refunded. Price 25c, 50c, and $1. Sold by all druggists. ws

You Can Regulate the Color.
Every natural shade from light brown to deepest black is imparted by Phalon's Vitalia or Salvation for the Hair. The number of applications determines the tinge. It would be like comparing weak vinegar to the strongest acids from a marsh, to compare it with the ordinary hair dyes. TTRS

Holiday Gifts
At John W. Pittock's, opposite the Postoffice, Holiday Books of all kinds, including all the new and popular annuals; poetry and poems by all the standard authors. The largest stock of all kinds upon all subjects. Travels and voyages in endless variety. Standard works in elegant bindings. Family Bibles, pocket bibles, over 209 different binding. Episcopal prayer books in all the styles of bindings. Testament and psalm books, juvenile for boys and girls, in books of all kinds. Toy books on linen and paper, in endless profusion. Games—Chess, checkers, dominoes, jackstraws, &c. Stereoscopic views and instruments. Writing desks, portfolios and tourists' cases. Work boxes, sewing and glove boxes and companions. Games for children for home amusement. Photograph albums in large assortment. Christmas tree decorations, flags, candles, &c. Pocket books, purses, card cases, &c. Initial papers, French papers and visiting cards.

To Whom it May Concern.
Have you ever befouled your grey hair with the vile dyes or worse preparations offered as substitutes. If so, they obstained you of course, but let me tell you now how from using PHALON'S VITALIA OR SALVATION FOR THE HAIR, which restores and invigorates as water, in all respects agreeable, and effects the desired object thoroughly and satisfactorily. TTRS

Neither Failing Teeth,
Nor the peeping wrinkles of time, so forcibly tell of advancing years, as your grey hair. Ayer's Vigor restores it to its youthful color, makes your appearance more agreeable to others, as well as yourself. With fresh, luxuriant hair, the infirmities of age are far less noticeable. TTRS

Economy is Wealth.
Go to Joseph Fleming's, 84 Market street, and purchase drugs, chemicals, patent medicines, perfumeries, &c.

Call and See.
Those elegant toilet and fancy goods, from the latest importation for holiday presents, at A. Abel & Co.'s drug, toilet and fancy goods depot, 172 Wylie street.

Kenwood's Boarding School for Boys, New Brighton, Penna.
A new session will begin Tuesday, January 4th, 1870. TTRS

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.
The world's great remedy for colds, coughs, consumption, and all affections of the lungs and throat. TTRS

The Daily Commercial.

THE FRANKING ABUSE.

The Prospect of Its Abolition—Letter from the Postmaster General—Abuses of the Privilege.

WASHINGTON, December 17, 1869.
NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The following nominations were sent to the Senate to-day: Amos T. Ackerman, United States Attorney, District of Georgia; S. L. Withey, of Michigan, Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit, vice Geo. H. Scarlett, withdrawn.

CONTESTED ELECTIONS.

The Committee on Elections were engaged to-day in consideration of the question of the right of parties to appear by counsel upon contested election cases. The Louisiana contested cases are not to be considered till after the recess.

INTERNAL REVENUE MATTERS.

Commissioner Delano has information that a detachment of the 6th cavalry on duty under instructions of the Revenue Bureau in Virginia have been very successful in destroying a number of illicit distilleries near Jonesville and Cumberland Gap. John Boyle, a private belonging to the detachment, was dangerously wounded in attempting to capture Daniel Letteral, proprietor of an illicit distillery. A reward of $1,000 will be offered for the arrest of Letteral.

Governor Scott, of South Carolina, forwards to the revenue office information that A. P. Turner, deputy collector of the 2d district of that state, on the 6th instant, seized two illicit stills owned by parties named Scruggs, and moved them to his house. The next morning a crowd of armed men surrounded Turner's house in Columbia, and came about to convey the stills to the Court House, ostensibly for the purpose of recovering them. Turner defended himself with a pistol. The attacking party fired into all around with muskets and fired a number of rounds, and he responded with his pistol, scattering his assailants. During the melee, Turner's daughter, seven years old, was wounded in the shoulder. Turner afterward left the premises, on horseback, for assistance. While gone a crowd of thirty men armed with muskets again surrounded the house. They were led by McKee[illegible] who demanded of Turner that the stills be given up, which she refused. McKelvy then took an axe and broke open the[illegible] there they had been deposited, and the crowd took the stills away. Turner has reported the names of eighteen of the ringleaders to be arrested and jailed. The remainder of the party are still under arrest, awaiting the stills, of which they have possession. Governor Scott believes a military force is necessary in the vicinity to enable him to force the revenue laws against these violators.

THE TARIFF ON STEEL.

The Ways and Means Committee has been in session all day on the subject of the tariff on steel, and after much and close discussion the following result was reached: On all steel ingots, coils, sheets and steel wire not less than one pound in weight, and not exceeding one cent per pound in lieu of the present duties, viz: from two and a quarter to three cents per pound, and ten per cent ad valorem; Mr. Marshall proposed two and a half cents, Mr. Blair three and a half cents, Allison two and a quarter cents, and Schenck three cents, which latter was finally carried, making the duty specific and ad valorem. Steel in other articles of steel are yet to be acted on. Whether the duties now imposed will yield a revenue or produces the existing tariff is a matter of discussion.

INDIAN EXPENSES.

A report has been in circulation that the Commissioner of Indian Affairs had made estimates for $2,000,000 more money than was appropriated by the Senate bill. This is a mistake, as Commissioner Parker estimates only $120,000 more, which is to cover the additional expenses incurred by the change of policy in the department in locating all Indians upon reservations. The expenses have been greatly reduced, compared with the amount of labor to be done in locating the Indians upon reservations, subsisting them, &c.

SECRETARY FISH'S RECEPTION.

The second reception of Secretary Fish took place this evening. Many distinguished persons, including the Diplomatic corps, officers, assistant secretaries, foreign ministers, Generals Sherman, Admiral Davis and members of Congress. Admiral Davis and members of the Senate were present in full uniform. The ladies present was unusually large.

THE citizens of Mt. Pleasant, Jefferson county, Ohio, have organized a Lecture Association with the following officers: Com. Wm. Dr. J. T. Updegraff, G. W. Mitchell, Esq., G. T. Fogle, John Wagner, A. G. Rinsey Rev. C. Schooley, John Delaney and Rev. John H. Mercer. The following gentlemen are expected to take part in this season's course: Rev. A. Clarke, A. M., Prof. G. W. Barns, A. M., Rev. W. Watkins, A. M., Rev. J. D. Herr, A. M., Rev. E. R. M., Gregor, A. M., and Rev. William Grimes, D.D.

Yossing and Moaning During Sleep
Are generally caused by worms. B. A. Fahnestock's vermifuge will expel them. TTRS

Urling, Follansbee & Co.,
Corner of Wood street and Fifth avenue, have on hand an extensive assortment of ready made clothing for gents' and boys' wear. The concern carries out the one price rule, and is deservedly popular.

Cream Ale
Is fast becoming the most popular drink in this country. It bids fair to take the place of lager beer, to a great extent, and is certainly far more pleasant and wholesome. Many Germans, after using a half barrel of it, say that so long as they can obtain Pier, Damnals & Co.'s cream ale, they will drink no more lager. Leave your orders at the Organ Brewery.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

New York Custom House Frauds.

Swindling the Government in Sugar—The Decline of Our Shipping Interests—Senators Wrangling Over the Presidential Appointments—The Circuit Judgeships—Yeaman's Nomination Withdrawn—Cost of the Franking Privilege—Proposed Repeal of Duty on Coal.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.
WASHINGTON, December 17.

Sugar Frauds in New York.
The Treasury Department has considerable information relating to sugar frauds in New York. It appears that soon after President Grant came into office complaints were made to Secretary Boutwell by men from Boston and elsewhere to the effect that importers at New York were in some way getting favors which enabled them to undersell those of other cities. He directed an investigation on every point raised, and this has been going on all summer. The sugar question came up in August. The frauds were reported as having taken place in two ways, by under weighing and under sampling—that is, by passing sugar at low grade, when it was of high quality. The amount of the swindle is very large, but is not yet ascertained. It should be remembered that these frauds, like all others recently discovered in New York, were perpetrated during Johnson's administration.

Our Shipping Interests.
The House committee to inquire into the decline of our shipping interests will be at work here during the holiday recess. Quite a large number of ship men are now in Washington in consultation with the members of the committee. The House has given Chairman Lynch permission to report on the 10th of January next, but it is hardly probable he will be able to do so. Secretary Boutwell is preparing documents to lay before the committee, and may submit his views in writing, but there are some reasons for thinking the President himself will have something to say on the matter

Wrangling Over the Spoils.
Wrangling is going on in the Senate about the distribution of appointments made by the President. Some Senators allege that their States don't get a proper share of the spoils, and that other States get altogether too large a share. The Consulships is the matter about which there is so much feeling, and the State Department will probably be called on for a list showing where its selections have been made, the dissatisfied Senators can figure out the condition of things.

The Circuit Judgeships.
The Senate Judiciary Committee at a session this morning took up the nominations for the new Circuit Judges, and had some talk about them, but could not agree. Nothing definite was here decided except that Yeaman, on the part of some members, and during the afternoon his nomination was withdrawn by the President; and Withey, District Judge of Michigan, was nominated in his place.

The Ohio State Senate.
The death of State Senator Russell, of Ohio, leaves the Senate absent at the present time, in addition to Senator Ashley, who is a member of that body, but can hardly be spared at present. It seems possible that this his nomination will not be acted on for some time to come, unless it should appear that another Republican can be elected without doubt to the Legislature from Senator Russell's district.

What the Franking Privilege Costs.
Postmaster General Creswell has taken steps to show the country just what the franking privilege costs. He is going to weigh and classify each day for six months all franked matter sent from here, so that the actual amount of postage lost can be ascertained.

The Duty on Coal.
If the House holds a session next Tuesday it is possible an effort may be made to put through a bill taking the duty off coal, and persons interested in it should be on hand.

The French Minister.
Reports are received in diplomatic circles that the French Government will send Berthemy back here as Minister.

The President and the Judiciary Committee.
At the special request of the Judiciary Committee the House will defer to-morrow session the means contemplated, the day would come when it would be necessary to report a reconstruction. The people of the United States would never submit if they could prevent it, to a reconstruction of the suffrage upon them. The objection to it was not so much to the extension of suffrage by law as it was to the method by which the accomplishment of the object was brought about. It was objected to that this Fifteenth Amendment must be adopted now or be lost, and that it must be adopted and even though it carried with it the destruction of everything of value in the States. These were the objections urged by the Union.

Mr. FERRY, in reply to the assertion that the Fourteenth Amendment had not been adopted by Georgia because the old Legislature had been organized, said the vote of that State having already been counted in its favor, it would not be necessary to call another session. He looked upon the pending amendment as inoppotune.

Mr. CONKLIN expressed objection to the amendment, and was followed by Mr. HOWARD, who agreed to modify his amendment by leaving out the condition of ratification by the Georgia Legislature. He said if the Senate refused to make the same requirements for Georgia as for Alabama, Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi, it would be a confession that in their case the work had not been done wrong. Having done that far in their policy, it was too late for Congress to recall the principle by incorporating this provision in the bill the effect would be to postpone the final action of the Fifteenth Amendment. The purpose of the Democratic members of the Ohio Legislature in the temporary withdrawal of the New York Legislature would be forestalled, and seeing that the amendment was secured, the object would be found to be defeated also. Instead of denouncing the negro race, they would be found pursuing the course which had been made acceptable to the American citizens of African descent in the late elections, declaring that the measure upon Georgia, but simply to say to her, if you do not ratify the amendment, you will not be admitted to go where you are. Those who had the opportunity of observing the effect of the Fifteenth Amendment in cases under consideration, for they would be largely influenced in their action by the Congressional test to go.

Mr. EDMUNDS asked why the Senator from Indiana [Mr. Morton] should not withdraw the clause forbidding the military commander in Georgia to declare the amendment adopted without the formality of a vote on the bill.

Mr. MORTON was asked why did not the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. Foster] propose the fifteenth amendment.

Mr. EDMUNDS denied that he had so voted, but subsequently admitted having voted for the resolution submitted by Mr. Sherman, which was offered to—

Mr. SHERMAN, in reply to his colleague [Mr. Taurbeard], asserted that the people of Ohio at the ballot box had declared in favor of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth amendments, and that the merits of the Fifteenth amendment had been discussed before the people after full discussion.

Mr. TILLMAN replied to his assertion declaring that in the elections referred to the grave issues involved in the war were all merged in party lines, received comparatively little attention in consequence of the general impression existing that the Republican party in denunciation of Andrew Johnson was in favor of universal suffrage, and that was offered with his colleague concerning the true interpretation of the public sentiment of Ohio as evinced in the recent elections, declaring that no such question were involved in the the success of a political party, if he was impossible with the slightest to add particular measure its proportionate popularity. He denied that the Republican party had repudiated the Chicago platform, and referred to the speech of Blair, and referred to the deceased Republican candidate for Governor of Ohio, Governor Hayes, who lost the confidence of the people. Referring to the resolutions adopted by the Republican State Central Legislature, he said that if the doctrine that a State could not go out of the Union after the Fourteenth Amendment was correct, it would have followed that it was a State in the Union before the Fourteenth Amendment, its action could not afterwards be reversed.

Mr. SHERMAN said, like the acts of Congress, the action of State Legislatures were not to be tested by repeal at any time. In reply to his colleague, he claimed that the people of Ohio never recognized doubtful position on the question of adopting either the fourteenth, fourteenth or fifteenth amendments. If the simple question was to-day left to the people of Ohio whether they would ratify the amendment because he was born with a black skin, he believed the answer would be given by 50,000 to 100,000 men, and in justice to that State he made this statement.

In the course of the discussion Mr. Sherman read from the bill for the reconstruction of Georgia.

Mr. SAULSBURY addressed the Senate in opposition to the inconsistency of Congressional legislation in reference to the amendment, declaring that it was contrived was prompted from partisan motives, and in violation of the Constitution.

The following additional bills were introduced during the morning hour:

Mr. RAMSEY introduced a bill to abolish the franking privilege and provide postage stamps and stamped envelopes for the payment of postage on all letters, documents and other public matters. Referred to the Committee on Public Roads.

Mr. HARLAN introduced a bill to provide for the settlement and payment of the claims of the territorial authorities of Montana in the suppression of Indian hostilities. Referred to the Committee on Territories.

Mr. ALLISON introduced a bill to provide for the reduction of the officers of the army. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. It authorizes the Secretary of War to honorably discharge any infantry officers in excess of those provided by the army reorganization act, but shall not be reduced below the requirements of the existing military establishment. The officers thus discharged on their own application shall receive from the United States three months' pay in advance, according to their terms of service. If a reduction in the regimental organization of companies is not thus effected, the secretary of War is authorized to effect it by consolidation. Any officer discharged under the above terms, giving two years' extra pay to officers who have served more than six months and a half years' pay for service from five to ten years, and one year's pay for service above.

At 2:30, on motion of Mr. THURMBULL, the Senate went into Executive Session for a short time. Upon the opening of the doors the consideration of the Georgia bill was resumed.

Mr. STOCKTON expressed the belief that if the fifteenth Amendment was differently framed to assume the means contemplated, the day would come when it would be necessary to report a reconstruction. The people of the United States would never submit, if they could prevent it, to a reconstruction of the suffrage upon them. The objection to it was not so much to the extension of suffrage by law as it was to the method by which the accomplishment of the object was brought about. It was objected to that this Fifteenth Amendment must be adopted now or be lost, and that it must be adopted and even though it carried with it the destruction of everything of value in the States. These were the objections urged by the Union.

Mr. FERRY, in reply to the assertion that the Fourteenth Amendment had not been adopted by Georgia because the old Legislature had been organized, said the vote of that State having already been counted in its favor, it would not be necessary to call another session again. He looked upon the pending amendment as inopportune.

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Mr. SHERMAN, in reply to his colleague [

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1869.

THE death of Hon. Mr. RUSSELL, member of the Ohio State Senate, at Urbana, on Thursday last, leaves the Senate a tie, the members standing eighteen Republicans to eighteen Democrats. A special election will be ordered, at an early day, to fill the vacancy, and we have no doubt the Republican predominance in the Senate will be preserved.

THE Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is growing garrulous over assorted frauds with the "unexpended balance." Perhaps it may find that mere words will not answer for testimony in a court of law. What will then be wanted will be the truth and the facts. These are what we are after—and will have.—*Beaver Radical.*

Why then did not Mr. QUAY, the editor of the *Radical*, when on the stand yesterday, answer questions designed to elicit "the truth and the facts," and why did his counsel object to every question which was calculated to develope the truth?

THE hearing before Alderman NEEPER, in the QUAY COMMERCIAL libel case, commenced yesterday, with Mr. QUAY, the prosecuting witness, on the stand. To his testimony the public will turn with some degree of eagerness, to find, however, that the prosecution objected steadily to questions calculated to open the door for a complete ascertainment of the most material facts in the case. Without concluding with Mr. QUAY, the hearing was continued till to-day at three P. M.

THE Tenure-of-office law, there is good reason to believe, will be repealed at the present session of Congress. It is estimated there will not be a dozen votes against repeal in the House of Representatives, but in the Senate a number of Senators will adhere to the views they have heretofore declared adverse to repealing the law; but still the opposition will not be so formidable as it was at the last session, and there is hardly a doubt but the repealing bill will receive a majority vote in the Senate.

THE reports which have been sent forth from Washington, that serious opposition exists to the confirmation of the appointment of the Hon. WILLIAM MCKENNAN for Circuit Judge, have, as we have good reasons for saying, been almost wholly without foundation in truth, and artfully devised, no doubt, to create an impression unfavorable to that gentleman, in the hope of strengthening such opposition. Private advices from Washington assure us that Mr. MCKENNAN will be promptly confirmed by the Senate.

THE President's acceptance of Judge GRIER'S resignation bears strong testimony to the ability and uprightness with which he discharged his official duties, and the "vigor and patriotic firmness" with which the Judge upheld the just powers of the Government in the darkest hours of her history. The tribute is a graceful one, and will no doubt be highly prized by the retiring Judge and his family. The resignation does not take effect until February, and we therefore conclude that all speculations as to the succession are premature and without authority. Another fact may delay the appointment, even after February, and that is the possibility of a change in some of the Circuit Judge appointments recently sent to the Senate, and the necessity for a readjustment of the boundaries of the judicial districts.

UNDERVALUATION appears to have been a favorite means for some time past, of defrauding the revenue in the New York Custom House, as frauds of this description, perpetrated on an extensive scale, are coming to light. Present developments go to show that a system of undervaluing imported sugar has been carried on to an alarming extent, into which, however, a thorough investigation will be made. What is known awakens the suspicion that much remains to be ascertained; and it is suggested that the Secretary would do well to institute a rigid scrutiny with the view of ascertaining with what degree of accuracy the weighing of imported steel is conducted at the New York Custom House. We name steel for some special reason, not doubting, however, that the inquiry could be as profitably prosecuted with reference to other importations.

JUDGE STRONG'S name is mentioned with great favor, by some of the eastern papers, as the probable successor of Attorney General HOAR in the Cabinet. It is not improbable that he may be selected as the representative of Pennsylvania, and thus afford relief to those disinterested souls who have been afflicted with such intense grief because this State was not represented in the list of General GRANT'S constitutional advisers. In one view, the selection of Judge STRONG for a Cabinet position would be an act of wisdom on the part of the Executive, if he desires to take his Attorney General from Pennsylvania. The Judge has never been prominently identified with our State politics, and is clear of all connection with political rings or divisions of the Republican party. He could go into office untrammelled by any desire to punish political enemies or reward political friends, and this, we take it, is precisely the kind of man the President desires to secure from Pennsylvania. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* makes a positive statement that Judge STRONG will be named Attorney General, and is also equally positive that Mr. STANTON will succeed Judge GRIER.

THE flurry created on the Democratic side of the House on Thursday by the repudiation speech of MUNGEN, of Ohio, was very amusing, but its results on the whole were beneficial. It forced WOODWARD, COX, ELDRIDGE, RANDALL, BROOKS, SLOCUM, and other prominent leaders to a thorough and complete disavowal of the disgraceful doctrines of the Ohio member, which were, we judge, merely an anaplification and extension of the Pendletonian theory into something tangible and capable of being enforced. This is borne out by the fact that among the Democrats who disavowed the MUNGEN speech we do not find the name of a single Ohio member, and by the further fact that PENDLETON predicted that if "greenbacks for bonds" did not become a fixed fact, repudiation would come next in order. The upshot of the debate in the House was the passage of this resolution, with but a single dissenting vote, that of JONES—the great JONES—of Kentucky:

Resolved, That the proposition, direct or indirect, to repudiate any portion of the debt of the United States is unworthy the honor and good name of the nation, and that the House, without distinction of party, hereby sets its seal of condemnation on any and all such propositions.

But even JONES could not manfully face the question. When the vote was announced he so far "backed water" as to fall back on the PENDLETON platform, by declaring that he was only in favor of repudiation in a certain contingency, that contingency being the payment in gold of that part of the bonded debt not specified as payable in coin. In that event he would go for repudiation. MUNGEN'S speech, after all, was productive of good, for it reduced the repudiation strength in the House down to—JONES; and we hardly think it will ever rise higher.

"TIME TEACHES EVEN KINGS!"

Spain seems to be as far from settlement as ever. There is no reason to believe that the Republicans are gaining strength very fast, and from present indications we should anticipate a condition of things not much better than anarchy, if the people were quite left to govern themselves. To increase the embarrassment of parties and the difficulties with which the Spanish politicians have to contend, no suitable person appears willing to be King of Spain. In old times, when the Bourbons filled many of the thrones of Europe, the prospect of becoming queen of that country was anything but an agreeable one to young princesses considered as eligible matches for the Spanish heir apparent. Indeed the position of a Spanish queen was known to be so dreary and dreadful, on account of the stupid pomps and ceremonies in which she was compelled to take part, the terribly rigorous etiquette by which she was surrounded, and the restraints and formalities by which she was hemmed in, that nothing less potent than state necessity and the hope of political ascendancy, would have secured a wife for the heir to so much power and grandeur.

Now it seems the crown goes a begging for somebody to take it. VICTOR EMANUEL has all along opposed the project of placing the young Duke of Genoa on the Spanish throne, and now we learn that the Duchess of Genoa is vehemently unwilling for her son to accept the honor. Political reasons partly influence each, most likely. But we can easily believe that a mother's anxiety for her son's safety, or peace of mind, is a strong motive with the latter. "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," was said long ago—but he who thus wrote, had small conception of the pains and perils which environ a royal head at the present day. The old Laird of Auchinleck summed up CROMWELL'S merits in the sentence—"why, doctor! he gart kings ken that they had a *lith* (joint) in their neck!" The demonstration of this truth was followed by many other lessons of almost equal utility to kings and their subjects—and there seems some reason to look for the not distant coming of the time when all royal personages will voluntarily retire from the business of reigning, and leave the people to get on without their aid. The position is not thought desirable. It never would have been a pleasant or tolerably comfortable office to any person who felt its responsibilities.

A THEOLOGICAL GLOSS.

A few days ago a dispatch by the ocean cable represented PIO NONO, in his address at the opening of the sessions of the great Council, as asserting for the Church a power greater than that of Heaven. This claim naturally created some surprise in minds of a sceptical cast. Some may have been shocked. Some may have been reminded of the fable of SALMONEUS and of his punishment. Some may have assumed it to be one of those rhetorical paradoxes in which even religious people have been known to indulge to the enhancement of their reputation for strength of faith. LUTHER was fond of such expressions. We at first supposed it to be a mere blunder of the telegrapher, or the copyist. But we are assured that this is not the fact. And, on second thought, an explanation occurs to us which seems perfectly to accord with what we know of the wisdom of the Vatican. All are aware that "our LORD GOD the Pope," "GOD'S Vicegerent, &c., are recognized titles of His Holiness. It seems, therefore, likely that the Holy Father, dissatisfied with the manner in which his decrees, bulls, encyclicals, &c., have been executed by Heaven, or rather in disgnant at the neglect to execute them at all, has at last resolved to take the matter into his own hands. In anticipation of the action of the Council the Pope, in the words referred to, lets the world know that he intends not much longer to act the part of Vicar, or subordinate, but intends to relegate Heaven into its proper position of inferiority. The effect of this step will certainly be to simplify papal administration very much, and as doubtless the personal infallibility of the supreme Pontif will be first declared, why no objection can reasonably be made to the plan.

A VALUABLE PUBLIC OFFICER.

To take note of the progress of Retrenchment and Reform, and to award proper credit for distinguished services in this regard, is among the most agreeable duties we are called on to perform. No instance of the kind is more worthy of being mentioned in an especial manner than that of Register of the Treasury, a very important position, now occupied by the Hon. JOHN ALLISON. This gentleman is well known to this section of the country, and the following flattering and just comments on his administration of the duties of his office by the Washington *Chronicle* will be gratifying to his many friends:

"A very marked instance of the thorough and searching system of retrenchment which under the inspiration of the present Administration is going on in every department and Governmental office is found in the report of Hon. M. ALLISON, Register of the Treasury, says that officer in his annual return to Secretary BOUTWELL: 'On assuming the duties of this office April 1, 1869 I found a clerical force of 368 persons. The number was in excess of the requirements of the labor to be performed, and the number has been reduced 16, over one-third. Spoken like CÆSAR himself—came I saw, I cut. It is the beauty to make just such reductions as this which at this time constitutes the valuable public officer, and is the especial power which the people delight to recognize and honor. One hundred and forty clerks at only $1,200 salary per year the lowest grade, is a saving of $56,000—no small item. It is more than the combined salaries of the President and his Cabinet, the Generals of the Army, the Chief Justice of the United States, and the whole Supreme Court.

"Such a fact as this illustrates with striking force the value of one efficient officer, and is, moreover an instructive commentary on our national weakness for spending money on average merit or mediocrity. What is the value of this little army of clerks compared with the value of one good President, or Supreme Justice, or General-in-Chief? Yes we pay liberally enough every year for hundreds more of clerks than we want, and let our first-class men starve."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Next year will witness a celebration of some interest to the commercial world, as it is the two hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the bank of Messrs. H. Kistner & Co., at Leipsic. The house was founded in 1670, and has ever since remained in the hands of the family, an event almost unprecedented in the history of modern banking.

A writer in the Boston *Journal of Chemistry* takes the ground that the practice of evaporating water upon stoves and furnaces is not conducive to health or comfort, asserting that atmospheric air cannot be "dried up or burned up" by any heating apparatus in use at the present day, and that while heated air has larger capacity to hold vapor than cold air, none of the natural moisture is expelled from it by heat.

The *Echo de Luxembourg* says: "The exportation of frogs to France has for some time back increased considerably. A certain dealer of Vance has, within the last three weeks, dispatched 200,000, and three days back he sent off 30,000. They are principally directed to Rheims, Nancy and Paris, a thousand of them costing 13fr. Their entrance into France is free. The principal places from which they come are Vance, Fouches, the borders of Semois, and part of the province between Arlon and Houtfalize: at Rheims twenty-five pairs of legs, the only part eaten, sell for 60c. Nevertheless, the frogs are exported entire."

The Lynchburg *Virginian* is informed that, within the last few weeks, lands to the amount of a million and a half of dollars have been sold to Northern capitalists along the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad. It is the purpose of these gentlemen to build at least three large iron furnaces, one of which is to be located at Clifton Forge—the point at which it is proposed to intersect the great trunk line road.

The wedding cards of Robert Jenkins and Mollie Morgan, colored, were distributed to their friends and acquaintances in Nashville, this week Thursday. A hack, with a liveried footman bearing a silver waiter, drove about town and distributed the pasteboard. The cards were gotten up in the height of fashion, the scrap of some time filled with white ribbon. On the first card appears the name of Mollie Martin; on the second Robert Jenkins; on the third ceremony by Rev. Dr. Revels, at St. Paul's Chapel, Thursday evening at 7 o'clock; on the fourth Mr. and Mrs. S. Shelby, athome Thursday evening, December 16, 1869, at 7½ o'clock.

The American settlement founded in 1825 in the Brazilian province of San Paulo by migratory rebels from the Southern States is one of the most fertile and prosperous in Brazil. It lies on the route of the proposed extension of the San Paulo railway from Jundiahy to Campinas. Cotton is being planted there on a larger scale than ever, and the cultivators are much encouraged.

Several hunting parties from Eastern Virginia, who had gone to some of the mountainous districts of West Virginia for the purpose of hunting deer, came away minus not only game, but horses, dogs and guns, and in more than in one case had their vehicles demolished. The hunters of Pendleton and adjoining counties count all the game as their own which they can capture by still-hunting, and will not tolerate intruders, and kill all the dogs upon which they can draw a bead.

The New York Hotel, on Broadway, was sold at auction on Wednesday for the sum of $1,095,000, and was bought in by Hickson W. Field and the heirs of Matthew Morgan. Mr. A. T. Stewart was present at the sale and bid $1,090,000, but would not budge from these figures.

The theatrical event in New York this week has been the appearance of a Russian opera troupe at the French Theater. The performances were in the Russian language. Curiosity drew a large audience, which pronounced the debut a success. This is the first appearance of the stage Muscovite in these parts.

Young Mr. Gray, the chaplain's son who swindled the keen brokers of Wall street out of $20,000, has not turned up to the hand-cuffs yet, and bids fair to baffle the detectives in spite of the reward offered for his recovery. As is generally the case in these defalcations, there is a woman concerned, an anonymous addressed in sundry epistles as "Dear Birdie." It is supposed that "Birdie" flew off with Gray, and that the couple are luxuriating somewhere upon the aforesaid keen brokers' $20,000.

Some of the Philadelphia papers are advocating the closure of the Mint in that city because it has nothing to do.

New York has not only an artistic, but also a practical object in celebrating the Beethoven Centennial Birthday. Every effort to make it a success is to be made. A Coliseum is to be erected, a large corps of musicians engaged, and the proceeds devoted to the erection of a Music Hall.

The Detroit *Tribune* says: "Although nothing official has yet been announced concerning Bishop Le Fevre's successor, it is very generally believed, on authority more or less reliable, that the Rev. C. H. Borgess, of Cincinnati, Chancellor to Archbishop Purcell, is already selected for the position, and it is even stated that the bulls for his consecration were sent some time ago from Rome and have been lost."

A curious failure is that of the new and costly Columbia market, built by the rich Miss Burdett-Coutts, in London, and opened a while ago with great ceremony. The principal reason ascribed for the failure is that the costermongers, hindered at first by rather high market dues, now refuse to avail themselves even of the magnificent accommodation. The wholesale department of the market is already abandoned, and it appears that the closing of the place or its conversion to some other use cannot be far off.

The California Chinese are shippin: horned toads to China, to be used in the treatment of lung diseases.

THE RELIGIOUS WEEKLIES.

OUR CHURCHES.

Denominational and Personal.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN.

THE BIBLE IN SCHOOLS.

The *United Presbyterian* has the following on this subject: "It is becoming more and more evident that the aim of Catholics in seeking the ejection of the Bible from our public schools is not simply from opposition to the use of the Protestant version of the Bible. Back of that and deeper is their opposition to any open Bible for the masses. They are at the same time, and for similar reasons, opposed to any such system of education as that of our common schools. They know well that if their children grow up under the liberalizing influences of such schools, they are in danger of being lost to the church. And if the Bible was thrown out of all these schools today they would not be satisfied. They would not cease their cry until the schools themselves would be abolished.

"It is well to have this question clearly understood, and to meet it squarely. Nothing will be gained in the way of conciliating them by yielding to their outcry against the Bible. Nothing will be gained for pure morality or religion, or any great interest of the nation, by any compromise with their system of superstition. We are sorry to see the disposition shown by some papers and prominent men among Protestants to yield to their present demand. One concession will be but the basis on which another will be demanded, and still another, until yielding in the name of false liberality we may give up all that makes the glory of our nation. We say, let the friends of the Bible and of free education stand firm.

"It may not be long until we have a demand for the surrender of our free institutions, to give place to some such government as the Pope administers at Rome. A republic such as ours is almost as bad for Catholic children as public schools. They who grow up under it are likely to have begotten within them a spirit of liberty that will not long submit to the tyranny over the mind of man that is the center and soul of the Papal system. The exercise of the right of private judgment is as much dreaded by the priesthood as the Bible. And unless we are willing to give up everything we hold precious, in civil as in religious interests, we should stand in stern resistance to their first assaults.

NEW CHURCH AT TARENTUM.

On Friday, December 10th, the congregation at Tarentum (Rev. J. H. Timmons, pastor,) entered the audience room of their new edifice for the first time, The building stands on a beautiful eminence, is 50 by 72 feet in dimensions, and well finished throughout. It has a lecture room, 15 feet in its story, capable of seating 250 persons. The audience room is 25 feet in height, with a gallery over the vestibule, and is capable of seating about 600 persons. It is not only the finest church building in the place, but one of the best village churches in the State, costing $12,000. The opening sermon was preached by the Rev. John B. Clark, D.D., of Allegheny City. In the evening, the Rev. W. J. Reid, of Pittsburgh, delivered an able practical sermon.

THE CHRISTIAN RADICAL.

THE PITTSBURGH "DEVIL."

The *Radical*, alluding to the tragedy of Tuesday last, says: For some years this city has been "possessed of a devil," whose name is Arnold, and like the devils we read of in Scripture he is "exceeding fierce," and has kept up in constant dread. Several times he has been arrested, locked up and tried, but with no good effect upon his conscience and life. As soon as the term of imprisonment had expired he drifted back upon us, aching for new mischief. He is suspected of complicity in a murder or two and a robbery or two for which he has never been arrested. Not long ago he was before the city authorities for some perpetrated villainy. He was dismissed with the understanding that he should leave the community and show his face no more. And, here we remark, such dealing with a dangerous man is no credit to the gentlemen who are guilty of it. What business have we to inflict other communities with our filth, if we have not virtue enough left us to gripe and suppress such a fiend we ought to be ashamed to excuse him from penalty by transferring him to go elsewhere to do his work of ruin and death.

THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL.

On this subject the *Radical* says: "We have no desire to anticipate issues, but we predict that the Council will utter no great word—it will not go forward in answer to the deeper wants of the time. There will be strategy and sophistry we suspect equal to Rome's palmiest days. The men who are to do the speaking and the thinking of that Council are not competent to the crisis that has called them together. And yet if they fail, if they undertake to build a barrier across the way of progress, if they persist in ignoring the achieved results of Christian civilization, they will precipitate the downfall of papal power, and which is the thing best to come, it the Holy See is utterly blind."

CATHOLIC.

THE COMMON SCHOOL SYSTEM.

The *Catholic* is still exercised on the common school system, and devotes a column to the subject this week, in answer to arguments on the Protestant side. Its views are thus summarized: We object to the *system* of Common Schools, 1stly, Because it is more expensive and less equitable than the denominational, and imposes on Catholics an impost odious as tithes were in Ireland; 2dly, Because it cannot educate children, and we practically ignore their immortal destiny, and refuses to develop their moral nature; 3dly, It indicates the duty of man to man, without resting it on man's duty to God. 4thly, Because it gives the soul nothing to feed on but the hard and sapless scraps of natural morality selected with a view to exclude the expression of distinctive Christian doctrines and motives. 5thly, Because it teaches obedience to human laws, without resting them on the only sure basis of law and order—God's unchangeable law. 6thly, Because it teaches youth to think, but only of man, and this world's paltry interests. 7thly, Because it prescribes the rights of man, but discards those of God; and once his rights are popularly discarded the rights of man repose on a broken reed.

THE BISHOPS OF PITTSBURGH AND ERIE.

A correspondent writing from Rome, under date of September 21st, thus notices the arrival at the Eternal City of the Bishops of Pittsburgh and Erie: Bishops Domenec and Mullen arrived here last Thursday. The former, being a Lazarist, dwells in the house of his Order. The latter resides at the American College. They both look hale and hearty after the fatigues of the journey. Rev. Fathers Dennis and Jerome Kearney reached Rome a few days ago, and immediately after the opening of the Council will take their departure.

RELIGIOUS PROFESSION.

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, at the Convent of Mercy, Webster avenue, Sister M. Pierre, (Miss Mary Stella Jones), and Sister M. Loretto, (Miss Isabella O'Brien), made their Religious Profession and received the Black Veil of the Order of Mercy from the hands of the Very Rev. J. Hickey, V. G.

METHODIST.

THE POPE'S INFALLIBILITY.

The leading editorial in the *Christian Advocate* is on "Papal Infallibility," which concludes in the following terms: What will be the result of the present Council to the Church and the world, it is not possible to predict. We hope, however, that God will overrule its proceedings for good. We regard the papacy as the bane of the Catholic Church. We patiently await its promised overthrow. Were it not for the pride, ambition and usurpations of the Popes, we might hope soon to see that Church redeemed from her superstition and cured of her blindness. Among her children have been some of the purest and best of saints—there are such within her pale to-day. Relieved from the monster incubus that weighs her down, she would soon take her place beside the churches of the Reformation, and joining hands with them in their noble efforts for the regeneration of the world, we should see them moving grandly forward, one in spirit and one in aim, filling the whole earth with the heavenly fragrance of a pure Christianity. God indeed seems shaping all things to this end. This last audacious claim of the ambitious Pius IX. may prove that

"Vaulting ambition which o'erleaps itself,"

It is his final struggle to regain a power which has long been waning. His fall may yet teach the church a lesson of humility, and find her "a way out of his wreck to rise in.

PRESBYTERIAN.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION.

The *Banner*, in alluding to the petition published in the COMMERCIAL a few days since, relative to the proposed change in the liquor laws, says: Here is something practicable. It proposes to remove the whole question out of the arena of general politics, and to place it directly in the hands of the people of each political locality, so that they will have the opportunity of deciding whether they will tolerate such nuisances [drinking saloons] among them or not. It also affords an opportunity to educate the public mind in reference to the whole subject, and to awaken the conscience of the people, so that an effective public sentiment may be created. We hope the friends of temperance will press the matter so earnestly that the Legislature will be constrained to grant what is demanded. Let every neighborhood be thoroughly canvassed for signers.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 17, 1869.

We found no change in the main features of our local discount market to-day. The banks are at a stand in dispensing any discount favors. It was remarked by a bank official to-day that President Grant's paper with Colfax's indorsement could not be discounted under the present condition of our market. Some of the banks expect to-morrow (Saturday) will be designated by the Comptroller as the next "statement day," which may serve to intensify the closeness of monetary matters at the present time.

—Our attention was called to the Associated Press dispatches this morning, which contained a very unusual array of failures at different commercial points. The object of such a list was evidently to unduly excite the public mind, and produce the impression that there was a very "shaky" condition in business circles throughout the country. It was doubtless intended to have a certain influence at Washington, and assist in some stock jobbing manipulations. The "Mercantile Agency of R. G. Dunn & Co.," alluding to the same news, feel moved to correct the erroneous impression that would likely follow such a publication. In a brief communication they state that the "Associated Press agent in New York enumerates a list of firms throughout the Union as having failed yesterday; whereas some of these failures occurred weeks ago, and have appeared upon our list of changes heretofore at different times during the past month. The advisability of publishing articles of this description in the daily papers, has been fully discussed some years ago, and the institutions arrived at were to the effect that they unnecessarily unsettle the public mind, and created a feeling of general distrust when it was totally uncalled for."

—The sudden drop in gold to-day was the occasion of a marked decline in government bonds, and there was a decided "breakish" feeling in the market which extended to the whole list.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Close.
U. S. Bonds '81	118⅝	119¼	119¼
U. S. Bonds '62	113⅞	114⅛	113⅞
U. S. Bonds '64	112⅞	113⅛	113⅛
U. S. Bonds '65	112	112⅛	112
U. S. Bonds, new '65	115	114⅝	114⅝
U. S. Bonds '67	114⅛	114⅜	114⅜
U. S. Bonds '68	115	115⅛	115⅛
10-40s	109½	109⅝	109⅝
Gold	121¾	121⅝	120¾

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day:

	Dec. 15.	Dec. 16.	Adv.	Dec.
Gold	121¾	120⅝	...	⅛
U. S. Bonds, 1881	118⅝	119¼	...	⅝
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '62	113⅞	113⅝	¼	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '64	112⅞	113⅛	...	¼
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '65	112¾	112	...	¾
U. S. Bonds, new '65	115	114⅝	...	⅜
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '67	114⅛	114⅜	¼	...
U. S. Bonds, 5-20s, '68	115⅛	115⅛	...	...
U. S. Bonds, 10-40s	109¾	109⅝	...	⅛

The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

December 17, 1869.	A. M.	10 00 M.	11 15 M.	12 M.	1 25 P. M.	2 45 P. M.
New York Central	188	188⅛	188⅛	188	187⅝	187⅝
Erie	25¼	25¼	25¼	25¼	24⅞	24⅞
Harlem	...	...	...	...	...	...
Reading	99⅞	100	99⅞	99⅞	99⅞	99⅞
Michigan Central	...	...	...	...	...	...
Michigan Southern	85¾	85¾	85¾	85¾	85⅝	85⅝
Illinois Central	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cleveland and Pittsburgh	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾
Chicago and Northwestern	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾
do preferred	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾	82¾
Rock Island	105	105	105	105	105	105
Fort Wayne	72¾	...	72¾	...	72¾	72¾
St. Paul, preferred	84¾	...	84¾	...	84¾	84¾
Toledo and Wabash	...	...	...	...	84½	84¾
Toledo and Wabash, pref.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fort Wayne	88	88	88	88	...	...
Chicago and Alton	...	...	141	...	...	...
Ohio and Mississippi	...	21¾	...	...	21¾	21¾
Western Union Telegraph	34	34	33½	33½	33½	33½
Pacific Mail	49¼	49¼	48¾	48¾	48¾	48¾
Adams Express	50	...	50	...	...	...
Wells, Fargo Express	19	...	18	...	19½	...
American M. U. Express	...	...	...	...	...	...
United States Express	49	...	50	...	...	...
Merchants' Union Express	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gold	121¾	121¾	121¾	121¼	120¾	120¾

A comparison between yesterday's and to-day's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Thurs.	Fri.	Adv.	Dec.
N. Y. Central	188⅞	187⅝	...	1
Erie	25¾	24¾	...	⅞
Harlem	133½	133½	½	...
Reading	100¼	99⅞	...	⅜
Mich. Central	124	124	...	...
Mich. Southern	88	85¾	...	2¼
Illinois Central	...	125	...	...
Cleve. and Pitts.	82¾	82¾	...	...
Chicago and North.	83	82¾	...	⅛
do preferred	85¾	82¾	...	1¼
Rock Island	105	104¾	...	¼
St. Paul	73	72¾	...	¼
do preferred	85¾	84¾	...	¼
Tol. and Wabash	84¾	84¼	...	½
do preferred	...	...	...	...
Fort Wayne	88	...	...	...
Chicago and Alton	143	...	...	...
Ohio and Miss	21¾	21¾	...	...
Western U. Tel	34¼	34	...	¼
Pacific Mail	49¼	48¾	...	½
Adams Express	50	...	...	...
Wells, Fargo & Co	17½	18½	...	2
American M. U. Ex	40	40	...	...
United States Ex	50½	50	...	½
Merch. U. Ex	...	9½	...	...

—The Chicago *Tribune* says: There has not been a time since the suspension of specie payments when the tendency of financial affairs was so positively in one direction as it is now. For seven years the finances of the country have been afloat, drifting aimlessly about on that sea of notion created by the breath of "public" and "private" opinion. During those years scarcely one man in a thousand has known what were the real prices of things. Real money has, for that length of time, been displaced by fictitious money, and fictitious prices established for commodities, and thus swapping friction against friction. Ninety-nine persons in a hundred, for a time, lost any remembrance of real money and real prices. Paper money is as powerful a stimulant to trade as alcohol is to the physical system, and during several years of the war, and up to about two years ago, the United States have been most gloriously drunk on it. Two or three years ago, men who talked about the "good value" of commodities were laughed at, as the man who stood up in Vanity Fair and said "I buy the truth" was laughed at; but it is a fact significant of a return to sensible views of things, that, during the past six months, people have got more and more in the habit of talking about the gold value of wool, provisions, cotton, sugar, dry goods, and commodities generally. The inflation has begun to work off, by the increase of products and commodities, in proportion to the volume of paper money, and by the increase of gold in the country, so that by these agencies the natural relations of currency, specie and commodities, are being gradually restored. But the return to sobriety is said to be the most painful part of drunkenness; and as the bummer with every cell in his system lusting and gasping for the accustomed stimulant, begs for more, so trade, over stimulated three years ago, now gapes and hungers for more currency. Ingersoll, of Illinois, stands up in the House and says: "Give me one more forty-four million drink!" and his adherents here whine for the return of "cheap money" and unconsciously print sarcasm on *cheap* money by saying that—"When gold was worth 150 and 200 cents in paper money," "greenbacks were so plenty that farmers paid up readily;" the logical sequence of which is that if gold were worth 50 cents in paper money "everything would be lively," "the goose would hang high," and silly pated people would feel exceedingly rich, until the effect began to work off, and the same cry of "More! more!" would be revived. Stimulants are good medicines temporarily, but he who attempts to live by them goes to pieces. The position of those who clamor for more greenbacks is precisely that above indicated. Free banking, allowing just as much circulation as the banks would furnish good bond security at its gold value, and adequate legal tender and special reserves for, would furnish just as much more paper money than we have now as the country could use. But those who clamor for more greenbacks instead of this kind of paper money, declare that it is not simply more currency that they want, but more *depreciated* currency. The thing whose end expect to see Congress do this winter, is to give us a free banking law, with circulation based upon the gold value of the bonds deposited to secure it, and with such reasonable requirements in regard to specie reserves as shall insure the gradual progress of the currency toward coin redemption, and so prevent the nation from finally and finally drunk again on depreciated currency. But there is one thing to be guarded against. After the surplus products of the abundant crops of this year have been worked out of the country, the gold that has been accumulating will soon begin to follow it, unless the paper currency has been placed on a sound basis of free banking, so that it will be obliged to contract and expand with the requirements of trade. If the currency question is not settled before that time comes, if the volume of currency is then as inflexible as now, all that we are now experiencing will be repeated.

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building,) dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Being represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he purchases and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists for the same terms as the New York brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

Iron and Nails.

The demand during the past week has been fair, and prices are unchanged. The mills are all running, and a more hopeful feeling pervades manufacturing circles than last week.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } FRIDAY EVENING, December 17, 1869. }

Trade to-day ruled quiet with a moderate business doing in most branches of general and produce markets. Prices continue without much change since our last report, and we quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLE BUTTER—Sales by the gallon, of 10 lbs weight, at 75@80c ₰ gallon, as to quality.

APPLES—The market is fairly supplied and we quote common at $2@2 25 ₰ prime to choice $2 75@3, and extra fine $3 50 ₰ bbl.

BUTTER—The receipts of choice are higher and the market a little stiffer. We quote solid packed at 22@26c, and choice roll 28@35c ₰ lb. Common roll in light demand and prices nominally 27@30c ₰ lb.

BEANS—There is a light demand, and we quote prime navy beans at $2 75@3 00 ₰ bushel, and medium at $2 50@2 75 ₰ bushel.

BACON, LARD, Etc—There is but a limited supply of new bacon in the market, and but a moderate demand. We quote new sugar-cured hams at 22½@23c; new shoulders 17c; new sides 19½c. Lard in tierces 19c, and in buckets 20½@21c ₰ lb. Mess pork ₰ bbl $33.

EGGS—We quote fresh at 36c ₰ dozen, and pickled at 34@35c ₰ dozen, with a full supply of the latter on hand.

CORN MEAL—Good to choice may be quoted at $1 60@1 70 ₰ bushel.

CRANBERRIES—We quote fair to extra cultivated at $12@16 ₰ bbl.

DRIED FRUITS—Prices run from $5 00@8 00 ₰ bbl as to quality. The receipts are liberal

CHEESE—The receipts are fair, with a moderate demand and quiet market. We quote Western Reserve at 17½c; Hamburg at 18c; Ohio factory at 18½c to 19c; Ohio Goshen at 19½c; New York Goshen at 20½c; Limburger cheese, 20c ₰ lb.

HAY—Sales from country wagons at $15@25 ₰ ton, as to quality.

STRAW—Sales at $12 00 ₰ ton.

HIDES—Sales at 25@26c ₰ lb.

DRIED FRUIT—There is a fair demand for apples at 8@8c ₰ lb, and for dried peaches at 11@12½c ₰ lb. Pealed peaches are quoted at 19@20c ₰ lb. Pitted cherries may be quoted at 31@32c. Blackberries at 14@15c ₰ lb, and peas at $2 75 ₰ bushel.

LARD OIL—There is a good demand for Pittsburgh winter strained at $1 47@1 50 for No. 1 and $1 00@1 05 ₰ gallon No. 2.

FEATHERS—Sales at 60@65c for ₰ lb.

PROVISIONS—The receipts are only moderate, and sales are making at $12 00@13 00 ₰ bbl for mess pork.

POULTRY, GAME, Etc.—We quote live chickens by the coop at 5@6c ₰ pair as to quality. Dressed chickens 12@13c ₰ lb; dressed turkeys at 16@17c ₰ lb; dressed ducks 16c ₰ lb; dressed geese 15@17c each. Quails may be quoted at $2 50 ₰ dozen; wild ducks by groups $4 50@5—whole carcass 10@12c ₰ lb, and saddles 25c ₰ lb.

ONIONS—There is a fair demand at $2 75 ₰ barrel for good, and $3 ₰ barrel for extra.

POTATOES—There is a moderate demand from store for Irish potatoes at 55@60 ₰ bushel; and from country wagons sales are reported in a retail way at 60@65c ₰ bushel. Primeio choice Jersey sweets sell at $5 00@5 50 ₰ bbl.

FEATHERS—Choice No. 1 geese feathers sell at 90c@$1 00 ₰ lb, and good to prime 80@90c ₰ lb. Dressed geese feathers in fair request and sell at $2 00 ₰ barrel, and to the trade at $1 90 ₰ barrel.

SEEDS—There is little doing in seed. Clover-seed is nominal from store, (and only selling in a retail way at 7@8c ₰ lb. Timothy is good to choice. Timothy seed is hardly even inquired for and prices are entirely nominal—say from $2 50 to $3 00 ₰ bushel. Flaxseed quoted nominally $2 30@2 45 ₰ bushel.

FLOUR—There is a moderate demand for good to choice brands winter wheat flour at $6 50@6 75 ₰ barrel, and a moderate demand for fancy at $6 75@7 ₰ barrel, subject to choice. Low and common grades are entirely nominal in price, and offered at a low figure. All other common grades are entirely nominal in price—and there is no demand for them. Buckwheat flour offered at $4 00@4 50 ₰ barrel.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—Sales at $4 00@4 50 ₰ cwt as to quality.

MILL FEED—We quote bran at 95c@$1; shorts at $1 00@1 20, and middlings at $1 60@1 90, as to quality ₰ cwt.

WHISKY—Market quiet but firm. We quote high wines at $1 05; common rectified $1 05, and proof rectified $1 15 ₰ gallon.

GRAIN—Trade dull, as nearly all kinds of grain. We quote from depot red winter wheat at $1 15@1 20 ₰ bushel, and white at $1 20@1 25; new corn is scarce and sells at 75c ₰ bushel; old ear or shelled corn nominal. Mixed oats 50c ₰ bushel on track and elevator. Oats are quiet at 47@48c on the track. Rye is in only moderate request and selling from elevator at 90c@$1 ₰ bushel for a choice article. Barley is nominal from $1 10 to $1 25 ₰ bushel as to quality. Very little selling above the latter figure and some below the former.

PITTSBURGH OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY MORNING, December 18, 1869. }

The market yesterday was quiet and but few transactions reported. Refined seemed somewhat firmer. The following dispatch, by the Pacific and Atlantic telegraph, dated Philadelphia last evening at five o'clock, shows the state of the market up to the time of closing:

"The market opened strong with an active demand for December, and continuing so until now, when buyers generally withdrew all orders, leaving it entirely neglected this afternoon. Quotations at close were nominally unchanged at 31c. Lines are very little sought after, and buyers' views are about ½c ₰ gallon lower, and sellers are willing to accept. For March to June 32c bid, 32½c asked; January to June 31½c bid, 32¼c asked. Crude bbl. Sales of 5,500 bbls Dec. December at 31c; 600 bbls December 21 at 31c."

Later dispatches, dated 6:30 P. M., report a sale of 500 barrels, December, at 30½c.

We have the following sales reported:

CRUDE OIL.	
1,000 bbls S. O. first 6 months at	13½c
1,000 bbls S. O. 10 to 15 at	13½c
1,000 bbls spot at	13 c
1,000 bbls January at	13½c
1,000 bbls S. O. January to July at	13½c
2,000 bbls S. O. January to July at	13 c
1,000 bbls spot (at auction) at	13 c
5,000 bbls (a moment, difference note of 60 days) at	14½c
REFINED OIL.	
500 bbls delivered December 21st at	31 c
2,000 bbls December at	31 c
500 bbls December at	31 c

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

NEW YORK, December 17.—Petroleum—crude bulk nominally lower; Texas, 30c. 100 bbls were sold at that price, and a small lot at 29½c. Refined—Weak in the limited export inquiry. There is more oil offering. 1,300 bbls were sold and delivered to the vessel at 31c, and 2,000 bbls, balance of the month at 30c; Philadelphia 31c delivery—There was a moderate demand for refined products. The general trade is dull and the market rather unsatisfactory. Sales of 2,000 bbls crude in shipping order, at 22½c; sales of 3,000 bbls refined standard white spot, delivery, at 30½c, and 3,000 bbls do, balance of the month at 30c.

OIL CITY, PA., December 17.—The market is nominal here at about 25@28; it was active on the lower creeks. There were sales of six cars at $4 90; more can be bought at that.

NEW YORK, December 17, 12 M.—Market unchanged in every respect.

PHILADELPHIA, December 17.—Market dull and unchanged; transactions limited at yesterday's prices.

NEW YORK, December 17, 2:10 P. M.—Market steady and demand fair at 17@17¼c for crude and 31c for refined.

PHILADELPHIA, December 17.—Market weak. P. L. S. to W. 30c; S. W. 31; crude 17½c.

TIDIOUTE, December 17, 3 P. M.—Market very dull; little doing; prices nominal at $4 25@4 50.

TITUSVILLE, December 17, 2:40 P. M.—Market quiet and little doing; prices nominal at $4 75@5 00.

NEW YORK, December 17.—Petroleum—crude quiet and steady; crude certificates 30c for spot and month. Liverpool—crude is 4d; refined 7½d. Antwerp—refined 31c.

OIL CITY, December 17, 12:20 P. M.—Market quiet, offering at $4 75; sales at $5 25@5 50, no transactions; no gravity oil offering.

PHILADELPHIA, December 17, 12:00 M.—Market strong and moderately active. December 31c and firm; January and March 31c bid; January and June 32½c crude bid.

Oil Receipts per River and Rail.

Fisher Bro.....1,200 | G S Thomas.....320
Lockhart, F. & Co.....320 | J Gallagher.....320
Owsten & Sowers.....160 | G E Palmer.....87

Total.....2,413

Oil Shipped East by A. V. R. R.

Tarentum Oil Works, 85 bbls tar to A & G Lenry, Philadelphia.

McKelvy & Bros, 487 bbls refined to W P Logan & Bro, Philadelphia.

Lockhart, F & Co, 306 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Total Shipments Refined.....793 bbls
Total Shipments Tar.....50 bbls

Oil Shipped East by Penna R. R.

A D Miller, 54 bbls refined to Waring, King & Co, Philadelphia.

Hut Oil and R Co, 50 bbls refined to E H Hubly & Co, Philadelphia.

Fleming & co, 473 bbls refined to Warden, Frew & Co, Philadelphia.

Total shipments Refined.....477 bbls

Oil Shipped East by Western P. R. R.

Kittanning & L, 214 bbls refined to W P Logan & Bro, Philadelphia.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } SATURDAY, December 18, 1869. }

Receipts of crude irons during the last week show a large increase, but the standard forge deliveries continue to be absorbed to a large extent in deliveries on old contracts. In prices there is no essential change, but the business during is remarkably light, and confined to small lots as mixture to stock in hands of consumers.

Foundry irons are arriving freely and with increased consumption the market is exceedingly dull. This is especially true of Hanging Rock descriptions, of which the receipts are largely in excess of the demand. Offers of sale have been made at a decline of fully $2 ₰ ton on rates current a week ago. In common foundry descriptions the demand is light and prices irregular.

We have quoted the following sales:

Sales of Bituminous Coal-Smelted from Lake Superior Ore.

150 tons open grey forge from yard	$27 50—4 mos.
50 tons open grey forge to arrive	27 50—5 mos.
90 tons white and mottled from yard	26 00—6 mos.
135 tons mottled, to arrive	26 00—5 mos.
100 tons open grey from railroad yard	27 50—4 mos.
50 tons open grey from railroad	27 50—4 mos.
100 tons open grey to arrive	27 50—5 mos.
100 tons mottled to arrive	26 00—5 mos.
50 tons mottled to arrive	26 00—6 mos.
300 tons open medium grey at	25 00—4 mos.
270 tons common white and mottled at furnace	25 50—4 mos.
65 tons foundry from yard	28 00—4 mos.
650 tons railroad mill iron, private terms.	

Anthracite.

30 tons No. 1 forge	$37 00—cash.
30 tons No. 1 foundry	42 00—4 mos.
20 tons No. 1 foundry	42 00—60 d'ys
15 tons No. 2 foundry	41 00—4 mos.
30 tons extra No. 2 foundry	41 00—4 mos.
10 tons No. 1 B. foundry	41 00—4 mos.
100 tons common neutral forge	30 00—4 mos.
100 tons good No. 3 neutral forge	39 00—4 mos.
100 tons grey Red Short forge	35 00—4 mos.
10 tons No. 1 foundry	41 50—cash.
20 tons No. 1 foundry	42 00—4 mos.
20 tons No. 1 foundry	42 50—4 mos.
20 tons No. 1 foundry, extra	45 00—4 mos.
10 tons No. 1 foundry, extra	42 50—cash.
30 tons cold short	36 00—4 mos.
	P. T.

Coke.

100 tons Red Bank forge	$38 00—6 mos.

Charcoal.

15 tons Missouri forge	$51 00—4 mos.
10 tons No. 1 Pudding, L. S. forge	50 00—4 mos.
50 tons No. 2 Hanging Rock	45 00—4 mos.
25 tons No. 1 Hanging Rock	48 00—4 mos.
	P. T.

CANAL RECEIPTS OF PIG IRON.

The following are the receipts of pig iron for the week, by the Erie Canal, received by Messrs. Minick & Co.:

Canal boats.	Tons.	Canal boats.	Tons.
C. Tuttle	66	Cairo	60
Manahsh	69	Monitor	67
Antoinette	65	J. L. Lee	63
E. Bidwell	60		
Total	325		121

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, December 17.—Cotton firm; sales of 24 bales ordinary at 22½c. Flour unchanged; family $8. Grain quiet and steady; red wheat $1 0c; white do $1 10; corn 65@70c; oats 55c; rye 86c on arrival. Hogs steady at $9 75@10 25 gross; receipts 5,300; killed 3,900. Sales of 28 hhds tobacco at $7@9 for inds, and $10@12 for leaf. Provisions firm; mess pork $33; bulk shoulders 12½c; clear rib 16½c; clear sides 16½c. Bacon—shoulders 15½c; clear rib 19c; rib 18½c; clear sides 18½c; hams 23c. Lard 18½c. Whisky firmer at 98c.

PITTSBURGH HIDE AND LEATHER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } FRIDAY, December 17, 1869. }

The following are the prices ruling in this market, reported from actual sales by Geo. H. Anderson:

LEATHER.

Oak sole, light and middle	34@36c	Oak harness, best	40@42c
Oak sole, heavy	34@36c	Oak harness, country	34@36c
Oak sole, Spanish	41@43c	Bridle, fair to good	90@95c
Oak, slaughtered	43@45c	Hand leather ₰ lb	40@42c
No. 1 B. A. mid	42@43c	Waxed upper	31 @32c
Red sole B. A heavy	42@43c	Wax kip	90@95c
Red sole Ormond	40@42c	Wax calf, upper ₰ doz	90@95c
Shoe skirting	46@48c	No. 1 pad skins ₰ doz	$8 50@9 00
Saddler's skirting	42@45c		
Black bridle ₰ doz	85@90		

HIDES.

Green salted all weights	11@12 c	Green salt kip	11@15 c
Green salted light	12@13 c	Green salt calf	15@17 c
Green salted heavy steers	11@12 c	Green butchers' do	12@15 c
Dry Plint hides	25@26 c	Dry Flint hides	23@24 c
cow and steer	23 @25 c	nominal	

OIL AND TALLOW.

Pure Lard oil	85@90c	Bank Oil	85@90c
Straits ₰ gal	$1 05@1 10	Tallow	10@11c
Straits best	90@95c		

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 120⅝@120¾.

NEW YORK, December 17—P. M.

READING TO BE CONSOLIDATED.

The Reading Railroad has formally notified the Stock Exchange of its purpose to issue $4,000,000 new convertible bonds in accordance with the following: $1,500,000 January 1870; $1,000,000 July, 1870, convertible any time after issue; $1,000,000 January, 1871, and $500,000, 1st of 1872, on giving thirty days notice, not convertible until 1872. Of these bonds $2,000,000 are taken at par by McCalla and Mont Bros., of London; the rest are underwritten at par by McKean & Borie of Philadelphia. The ostensible reason for the issue of these bonds is the building of new branch roads, equipments, &c.

DIVIDEND.

The Lake Shore Company to-day declared a dividend of 1 ₰ cent, payable February 1st.

THE BOUNTY LOAN FRAUDS.

There are no new developments in the bounty loan frauds.

FAILURES.

There were no new failures of consequence of New York merchants reported to-day, although there were numerous large failures in each of the cities of Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago.

UNDERVALUATION.

Frank Howe, special Treasury Agent and Chief Appraiser Palmer are still engaged in resampling the sugars in bond, and submitting them to new appraisement. Some undervaluation has been discovered, but not as yet to any great extent.

EXCITEMENT IN THE GOLD ROOM.

The excitement in the Gold Room to-day approached nearer to September than any thing witnessed in the Wall Street since the culmination of the gold speculation of last month. The room was crowded and figures moved rapidly up and down. At one time the price touched 120¾. The bull party were disgusted with the action of Secretary Boutwell in accepting bids which completely upset the combination formed to prevent proposals going into the Treasury to-day. This combination was made by several very prominent brokers, who lose heavily by falling and failure of necessary proposals. Boutwell rejected spring $1 38 for amber State; $1 45@1 49 for white Michigan; Rye quiet. Barley dull. Corn quiet; mixed quiet. Receipts of corn 201 bushels; corn quiet and firm; sales of 37,000 bushels at $1 @$1 01 for sound old mixed western; $1 01 for new white Southern; $1 02 for new yellow Southern; $1 03@1 04 for choice; oats rather more steady; sales 14,000 bushels at 64@66c for sound. The latter price for choice; 70c for State. Beef dull. Coffee dull. Sugar quiet; sales of 1,000 hhds Muscovado at 9½@10c. Molasses dull; sales 500 bbls New Orleans at 80@85c. Pig iron dull. Petroleum firmer but unchanged; refined held at the range of 29@29½c in bond. Tallow dull and heavy; held at range of 9@9¼c. Barley dull and entirely nominal at $1 @$1 30 in the range for No 1 to 2. Dressed hogs unchanged at 11@12c. Clover seed held at $8 @9, with $8 00 bid.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, December 17.—Flour dull and steady. Wheat active for choice; prime red at $1 35@1 40. Corn active; white 85@86c; yellow 86@87c. Oats dull at 50@54c. Rye $1 00@1 05. Provisions weak; mess pork $26@26 50. Bacon—rib sides, loose, clear sides 19½c; shoulders 15½c; hams 23c. Lard 19c. Whisky firm at $1 01@1 02.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, December 17.—Provisions dull; lard lower at 18½c. Petroleum—crude 29½c; refined 30½@31c. Flour declining; superfine $4 50@5 00; Wheat quiet; red $1 22@1 25. Corn dull; old yellow $1 03@1 05; new do 98@95c. Oats 58@60c. Whisky quiet at $1 02@1 05.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, December 17.—Flour nominally unchanged. Wheat steady at 93c for No 1, and 85½c for No 2. Oats steady at 43c for No 2. Corn steady at 81c for No 2. Rye and barley unchanged. Dressed hogs dull and lower at $12@12 25.

For Additional Telegraph Markets See First Page.

RIVER TELEGRAMS.

Brownsville.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

BROWNSVILLE, PA., December 17, 1869.

River falling slowly, with nine feet water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 33° at 4 P. M. C.

Greensboro.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

GREENSBORO, PA., December 17, 1869.

River falling, with eight feet of water in the channel. Weather clear; thermometer 31°. F.

Oil City.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

OIL CITY, PA., December 17, 1869.

River falling slowly, with six feet four inches water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 38° at 6 P. M. F.

Morgantown.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MORGANTOWN, December 17, 1869.

River falling, with fifty inches of water in the channel. Weather cloudy; thermometer 38° at 4 P. M. W.

Ironton, O.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

IRONTON, O., December 17, 1869.

Boats passed down to-day: The Fleetwood at 9 P. M. Passed up: Ohio No. 4 at 8 P. M. River stationary; weather clear and cold. H.

RIVER NEWS.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

Arrived.

Belle	Richey	Parkersburg
E. Bennett	Carmosa	Geneva.
Chieftain	Phillips	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Elizabeth.

Departed.

Elector	Bougner	Geneva.
Chieftain	Phillips	Geneva.
E. Bennett	Carmosa	Geneva.
Elizabeth	Houghton	Elizabeth.

MONONGAHELA—Twelve feet six inches.
ALLEGHENY—Thirteen feet six inches.

THE MARKS last evening indicated twelve feet six inches, and at about a stand. Trade on the landing was brisk. Freights plenty. The coal men had a busy time getting their tows in order. Several have left and others will depart to-day and to-morrow.

The steamer Great Republic and Emma No, 3, left New Orleans on the 15th.

The steamer Belle Vernon, Captain J. J. Darragh, was announced to leave Cincinnati for this port on Thursday.

The steamer Camelia, Capt. R. C. Mason passed Evansville on Wednesday, en route for Nashville.

BIG OIL SHIPMENT.—Forty thousand bbls of petroleum, from Burning Springs, weighs 2,500,000, is expected daily to arrive at Parkersburg.

The steamer Messenger, Capt. Jesse Dean, arrived at New Orleans on Wednesday, from this port.

The Leonidas left Cincinnati for New Orleans on Wednesday, with 600 tons of freight, including passengers and 50 deck passengers.

CAPT. CAMPBELL, with the steamer Mary Lavoge and barges, will leave this port on Wednesday next for St. Louis. The Captain will receive freight this morning.

The fine packet Argosy, Captain George D. Moore, is loading for New Orleans. Her cabin and will have dispatch. Passengers and shippers will bear this in mind.

The fine packet Molly Ebert—Capt. G. W. Ebert—will leave her departure this day. A fine opportunity to persons going South.

The new steamer Carrie V. Kountz—Capt. Vandervort—is announced for Memphis and New Orleans. Shippers will bear this in mind.

The Parkersburg packet for this day is the steamer Belle, Capt. Richey. This boat is well found in every respect and in charge of careful and attentive officers. Mr. Richards has charge of the office.

The sensation at Glenville is the building of a steamboat at that place, by Capt. Hugh Craddock. This is to be named the Belle Martha Belle, being built expressly for the trade between Glenville and Parkersburg.

The Vicksburg *Herald* says the Virginia and Lizzie Gill collided at Rodney Island, Thursday night, the bow of the Virginia tearing away a portion of the boiler's guard and smashing eight or ten barrels of whisky. The Virginia was not much damaged.

The new Cincinnati packet, J. N. McCullough, will soon be ready for business. The first fine passenger steamer built for Captain A. B. Shepherd, one of the most accomplished officers to be found on the river.

STEAMER SIRIUS.—The Knoxville *Whig* says the new steamer Lucy Coker was sunk on the 6th inst., by striking a snag in Hawassee river, near Kirkpatrick's Ferry. She was raised to the shore at the time, and at last account the water did not cover her. She will be lost.

The fine passenger steamer Mollie Ebert, Capt. G. W. Ebert, is announced for Cairo, Memphis and New Orleans. This boat has unsurpassed accommodations, and is in charge of capital and attentive officers. For further information, apply to Capt. A. S. Carlile, the manager, at the wharf boat.

ACCIDENT.—The City of Alton, on her way to New Orleans from Cincinnati, broke her starboard crosshead below Island 63, and proceeded to the head of Island 65, where she landed at Memphis, when she broke her starboard shaft. She had to be towed back to Memphis for repairs.

LITTLE RIVER.—A correspondent says of Little river, an affluent of the Ouachita: It is a handsome little river, just big enough at the upper crossing of the Texas road to float a boat, but big enough to turn around in. On our return voyage we were obliged to back out several miles before we could find a place wide enough to turn around. Twenty-five miles above the mouth with our steamers, and brought out a fair showing of cotton and seed. The country is full of cotton, and the finest cotton farms, as productive and valuable as any in the world. It will be a paying stream to bale to a bale and a half to the acre. The crops this season are splendid and remunerative enough to have caused by the civil casualties of the past three years.

Another Coal Run.

In yesterday's COMMERCIAL we furnished the details of another coal boat rise, amounting in the aggregate to 1,482,000 bushels. Now we make considerable additions to our previous reports. The Ohio and Monongahela are in fine order. This makes things pleasant for the coal interest. The following lists have and will leave during the next twenty-four hours:

FOR LOUISVILLE,

Tow boats.	Boats.	Barges.	Bushels.
Eagle	6	of nut coal	126,000
Eagle	6		30,000
Panther	6		120,000
Panther	2 of nut coal		20,000
F. W. Wilson	7		56,000
Lil'ie Aiken	3	2	80,000

The Daily Commercial.

CITY MATTERS.

THE QUAY-COMMERCIAL LIBEL SUIT.

Preliminary Hearing Commenced—Partial Examination of Colonel Quay—The Examination to be Continued To-day.

At three o'clock yesterday afternoon, the libel case of M. S. Quay vs. C. D. Brigham, Editor, and R. D. Thompson, Business Manager, of the COMMERCIAL, came up for a hearing before Alderman Neeper, having been continued from the previous day, at the request of the prosecution. At the hour stated, the magistrate's office was crowded—many more present were several ex-members of the Legislature, and other prominent citizens.

The prosecution was represented by Thomas M. Marshall and M. Swartzwelder, Esqs., and the defense by John H. Hampton, Esq.

At a few minutes past three, Mr. Swartzwelder said: Mr. Alderman, this is the time fixed for the hearing.

The Alderman stated that if the parties were ready the case would be proceeded with.

The Alderman, at the request of Mr. Swartzwelder, then read the information, and also the alleged libelous matter, as follows:

"The following mysterious paragraph appears in a letter written from Pittsburgh to the Beaver *Argus*:

"A diversity of opinion exists here as to what the new, large building in your town should be called. Some insist that it should be known as the 'Mackey Building,' others claim it should be called 'Quinnipiac Tycoon Building,' while others again seem to think the 'Common Block' would be more appropriate. I would most respectfully urge that the latter be the name by which that monument of greatness be known by the generations which are to come. By the by, do you know that one of your Beaver boys and one of our prominent men here are running a distillery not a hundred miles from where I write? Some of them has suspected that the *tax papers of the State* are entitled to a share of the profits of the concern, when they come to be voted on, on the ground that they who furnish the capital should not be cheated out of the dividends."

"Meaning that 'large building,' the name will make little difference. Perhaps no one name could be selected to signify the whole truth. For instance: If a man succeeds in drawing out of one candidate for United States Senator the sum of $15,000, and betrays him to his opponent for $20,000, and then betrays him to a third candidate for $30,000, and betrays him to his opponent for $20,000, and if he puts the money into a 'large building,' a special coinage would be necessary to give it a suitable name. In several similar transactions, to say nothing of the "unexpended balance," should enter into the history of the structure, the difficulty as to a title would be increased. Our Beaver friends, we doubt not, will be found 'equal to the occasion.' As to the disfigurement, the mystery of the correspondent is great. The inference, to those who understand a certain state of facts, might be illumined, however, by the suggestion that many of the people deliberately propose to a revenue officer that, for a large consideration, he should be converted into entirely blind for a certain length of time, to enable them to steal 50,000 and upwards. He would not be estate to rob the Government if they had a chance. Perhaps they have gone into the whisky business to do it. Who knows?"

Mr. Swartzwelder then stated that Michael Fitzgibbon, messenger at the Pittsburgh National Bank, was intended to be put upon the stand, as first witness, for the purpose of having a paper at the office of the COMMERCIAL containing the alleged libel. The purpose was to prove the publication, if it was necessary.

Mr. Hampton—You will be expected to prove the publication in the ordinary manner.

Mr. Swartzwelder—We will show by this witness that Messrs. Brigham and Thompson are the publishers of the COMMERCIAL; and, second, that the libel read first to Mr. Quay, and to facilitate the examination, however, we can begin at the other end, by putting Mr. Quay on the stand.

TESTIMONY OF COL. QUAY.

Matthew S. Quay, sworn and examined by Mr. Swartzwelder:

Q.—Whereabouts do you reside?

A.—In Beaver, Pa.

Q.—State how long you have resided there?

A.—Since 1850 or 52.

Q.—Did you make this information against Messrs. Brigham and Thompson?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Where was that portion of your information, containing the alleged libelous information, taken from?

A.—It was an extract taken from an anonymous letter in the Beaver *Argus*, republished by Mr. Brigham, and the libelous matter added.

Q.—Did you read those articles in the Beaver *Argus* and COMMERCIAL?

A.—I did.

Q.—Is that the article? (Paper shown witness.)

A.—That is the article.

Q.—What date?

A.—December 9th.

Q.—On reading that article, Col Quay, whom did you think it was written concerning?

A.—Me of course. I am the only person holding a large bonus in Beaver, excepting a Methodist church. I knew it did not allude to the church.

Q.—Was that the only reason that made you believe the article applied to you?

A.—The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL had been attacking Don Cameron and myself, charging us with corruption, etc. I had been engaged in a newspaper controversy before this time with the COMMERCIAL. Mr. Brigham and I had two or three shots at each other. The controversy was about the State Treasurership.

Q. Had Mr. Brigham, in his paper, prior to the libel of the 9th, say of the 9th, alluded to you by name?

A. He had spoken of "Don Cameron, Quay & Co."

Mr. Swartzwelder—I do not want to know what he said—merely if he alluded to your name.

A. I think the allusion was as I have stated.

Q. Was it for the foregoing reasons, as stated by you, that you took this article to refer to yourself?

A. Yes, sir. I don't think Mr. Brigham will deny it.

Mr. S.—Just answer the questions "yes" or "no."

Q. You have already stated that you are erecting a large building in the town of Beaver?

A.—Yes, sir; at a cost of $13,000. It is the only large one in the town, except the Methodist Church.

Q.—As to this portion of the article: "If a man succeeds in drawing out of one candidate for United States Senator the sum of $15,000, and betrays him to his opponent for $20,000, and it he puts the money into a large building," etc., he good enough to answer specifically, whether, at any time, or under any circumstances, you ever drew from any candidate for United States Senator, the sum of $15,000, betrayed him to another candidate for $20,00, and put that money in a building at Beaver?

A.—I never drew it from any candidate, for any office, and never betrayed any one. Was never paid any money, or anything else, to betray anything.

Q.—Did you at any time, or were you at any time, paid any money by Mr. Mackey, State Treasurer.

Mr. Quay—For my support?

Mr. S.—For your support to put him into office and retain him there?

A.—No, sir, I never did. It was not necessary.

Q.—There is another reference here: "The reference, to those who understand a certain state of facts, might be illumined, however, by the suggestion, that men who will deliberately propose to a revenue officer that, for a large consideration, he should be converted into, for a certain length of time, to enable them to steal $50,000," etc.?

A.—My answer to that is, that I never tried to steal anything from the Government, and never attempted to bribe any revenue officer to help me do it.

Q.—Are you engaged, in any manner, with a distillery?

A.—No, sir; I never had any interest whatever, in any distillery.

CROSS-EXAMINATION.

Mr. Hampton then proceeded to cross-examine the prosecuting witness as follows:

Q.—How long have you lived in Beaver County, Col. Quay?

A.—Since 1850; read law in Beaver County.

Q.—Do you recollect when you were admitted to the bar?

A.—In 1851 or 1855, I think; I was then elected Prothonotary.

Q.—How long did you continue in that office?

A.—Six and a half years; I resigned and went to the army.

Q.—What did that office pay you—what did it net you per year?

Mr. Marshall—We object.

The Alderman—The objection is sustained.

Mr. Hampton—You do not wish to hear any arguments in the

The Alderman—Yes, sir, I will.

Mr. Hampton—But I do not care to say anything, how that you have decided the matter.

The Alderman—But I will withdraw the decision.

Mr. Hampton stated that the purport of the article—the alleged libel—was, that Mr. Quay was erecting a building at Beaver, Pa., with money obtained by corrupt means. The purpose of the article was to show the pecuniary condition of Mr. Quay, when he left the office of Prothonotary; and further, that it was not possible for him to accumulate such sums of money since then, unless obtained corruptly. In other words it was the design of the defense to inquire into Mr. Quay's financial affairs. Quay alleges that the article is false, libelous and malicious, and does him great injury. The defense proposed to show that his means were such as would not enable him to build such a structure, unless by money corruptly obtained.

Mr. Marshall stated that Mr. Brigham was present, and if he would sign a paper, setting forth that that was what was meant in the article, namely, that Quay was erecting the building on $13,000 corruptly obtained, the prosecution would submit the evidence; otherwise they would have it read.

Mr. Hampton did not choose to enter into any such arrangement. The defendants were present to answer the charge preferred, in a fair way, and not to make papers. He understood the article, construed by Mr. Swartzwelder, to declare that Mr. Quay is putting money corruptly obtained into the building at Beaver.

Mr. Marshall—We understand the charge to be that Mr. Quay obtained the sum of $13,000 corruptly.

Mr. Hampton—If the objection is valid it is a matter of law.

Mr. Marshall—If the offer is not accepted we will insist upon our objection.

Mr. Swartzwelder—They have refused to accept the offer.

The Alderman—The objection is sustained.

Q.—Col. Quay, what year did you go into the Pennsylvania Legislature?

Mr. Marshall—You need not answer that; we object.

Mr. Hampton—Put the question down Mr. Alderman.

Mr. Marshall—What does the gentleman wish to show?

Mr. Hampton—It is my cross examination, and I am touching only on matters brought out in the examination in chief. I ask the question for the purpose of showing that the gentleman (the witness) was a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature at an election held for United States Senator, that money was paid—

Mr. Marshall—Put the purpose just stated in writing, Mr. Alderman.

Mr. Hampton—It is not customary to put in writing at a preliminary hearing what either side expect to prove.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Read the question, Mr. Alderman, as you have got it in writing.

Mr. Hampton—That the accused received money from a candidate for United States Senator.

Mr. Hampton—I did not state that that was my purpose.

It is but proper to state here that the attorneys for the prosecution spoke of Mr. Hampton's purpose several times, and the Alderman finally it down amid considerable confusion got it in the way it was read.—REP.

Mr. Hampton again stated the purpose of the question, namely, to ascertain from the witness whether he was in the Pennsylvania Legislature, when there was an election for United States Senator. That's the purpose.

Mr. Marshall—We do not object then.

The Witness—In the Pennsylvania Legislature and a candidate for Speaker in 1867, when Curtin and Cameron were candidates.

Mr. Hampton—I asked you what year you went into the Legislature.

The witness—In 1865; that was my first session.

Q.—How many sessions were you there, sir?

A.—Three years—three sessions.

Q.—I wish you to state, if you please, what amount of money you were worth in 1865, before you went into the Legislature?

Mr. Swartzwelder—We object.

Mr. Hampton—Put the question down, Mr. Alderman.

Mr. Marshall—We object because it is prying into private matters.

Mr. Swartzwelder—State the grounds of the objection.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Because it is neither pertinent nor relevant; affirmatively stated, it is impertinent and irrelevant.

Mr. Hampton—I propose to ask Col. Quay this question, for the purpose, as already stated, of getting at this building; that is, ascertain whether there was any money used corruptly in it or not. We cannot get at the matter in any other way.

Mr. Marshall—If the gentleman admits that that is what the defendant meant in his article of the 9th, we make no objection to the question; otherwise we do object.

Mr. Hampton—There is the article. You can draw that inference or any other that you see proper from the article.

Mr. Marshall—We object then, because that is not assuming the responsibility.

Mr. Hampton—Take it as you please.

Mr. Marshall—That looks more like crawling out of the responsibility than assuming it.

Mr. Hampton—I have said that if the gentleman *thinks* that it is such, he can admit the evidence.

The Alderman—I sustain the objection.

Mr. Hampton—I cannot ask that question then, without how much he was worth before going into the Legislature?

The Alderman—No, sir.

Mr. Hampton—Mr. Quay, when did you purchase the lot on which you are erecting that building?

A.—I never bought it at all; my mother-in-law conveyed it to my wife last fall.

Q.—Who is building the house on the lot?

A.—I am, sir; Messrs. Monroe, Miller & Co. are the contractors.

Q.—What's the contract price?

A.—$13,000.

Q.—The legal title of the deed is in your wife's name?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Col. Quay, is there anything in that article of the 9th, just read by Mr. Swartzwelder, which leads you to believe that you answer the description of a person alluded to in it, excepting the reference about the building which you are erecting?

Mr. Swartzwelder—Put down the question.

A.—No, sir; only that the editor of the COMMERCIAL had been engaged in a controversy with me touching the Treasurership.

Mr. Marshall—Is the question in writing; we want the exact language.

Mr. Hampton—Go on with your answer.

The witness—Then the whole thing hangs upon that; it indicates who is meant by what follows: that is the extract from the *Argus*, which I have been informed has been taken from the *Argus*, and the building matter had been left out, I do not think I would have known who was referred to me. I might have supposed from previous personalities that he meant me.

Q.—I ask you this question, if there had been no allusion to the building, is there anything else in that article that you could have construed it so as to mean you?

A.—Apart from the personalities, I—

Q.—I want a direct answer.

A.—I do not think that I would ever have declared that the article was libelous, if it had not been for the allusion to the new building. At the present time, I would.

Mr. Hampton—Then I will take you back to the time when you first read the article. What was your impression then?

A.—The mere naked charges, without reference to the building, would never have caused me to think I was the man at all.

Q.—Prior to this, on what terms had you been with Mr. Brigham?

A.—On good terms.

Q.—Never had any personal quarrels?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—State whether, prior to the publication on the ninth, you were on good terms with Mr. Brigham personally.

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—When did you become proprietor.

A.—Purchased it from the start.

Q.—How long since?

A.—About a year ago.

Q.—Did you buy out an established paper or start a new one?

A.—I purchased materials and established a paper.

Q.—How much did the paper cost you?

A.—About $5,500 or $6,000.

Q.—Was it established long?

A.—That is the article.

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Q.—Col. Quay, what year did you go into the Pennsylvania Legislature?

Mr. Marshall—You need not answer that; we object.

Mr. Hampton—Put the question down Mr. Alderman.

Mr. Marshall—What does the gentleman wish to show?

Mr. Hampton—It is my cross examination, and I am touching only on matters brought out in the examination in chief. I ask the question for the purpose of showing that the gentleman (the witness) was a member of the Pennsylvania Legislature at an election held for United States Senator, that money was paid—

Mr. Marshall—Put the purpose just stated in writing, Mr. Alderman.

Mr. Hampton—It is not customary to put in writing at a preliminary hearing what either side expect to prove.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Read the question, Mr. Alderman, as you have got it in writing.

Mr. Hampton—That the accused received money from a candidate for United States Senator.

Mr. Hampton—I did not state that that was my purpose.

It is but proper to state here that the attorneys for the prosecution spoke of Mr. Hampton's purpose several times, and the Alderman finally it down amid considerable confusion got it in the way it was read.—REP.

Mr. Hampton again stated the purpose of the question, namely, to ascertain from the witness whether he was in the Pennsylvania Legislature, when there was an election for United States Senator. That's the purpose.

Mr. Marshall—We do not object then.

The Witness—In the Pennsylvania Legislature and a candidate for Speaker in 1867, when Curtin and Cameron were candidates.

Mr. Hampton—I asked you what year you went into the Legislature.

The witness—In 1865; that was my first session.

Q.—How many sessions were you there, sir?

A.—Three years—three sessions.

Q.—I wish you to state, if you please, what amount of money you were worth in 1865, before you went into the Legislature?

Mr. Swartzwelder—We object.

Mr. Hampton—Put the question down, Mr. Alderman.

Mr. Marshall—We object because it is prying into private matters.

Mr. Swartzwelder—State the grounds of the objection.

Mr. Swartzwelder—Because it is neither pertinent nor relevant; affirmatively stated, it is impertinent and irrelevant.

Mr. Hampton—I propose to ask Col. Quay this question, for the purpose, as already stated, of getting at this building; that is, ascertain whether there was any money used corruptly in it or not. We cannot get at the matter in any other way.

Mr. Marshall—If the gentleman admits that that is what the defendant meant in his article of the 9th, we make no objection to the question; otherwise we do object.

Mr. Hampton—There is the article. You can draw that inference or any other that you see proper from the article.

Mr. Marshall—We object then, because that is not assuming the responsibility.

Mr. Hampton—Take it as you please.

Mr. Marshall—That looks more like crawling out of the responsibility than assuming it.

Mr. Hampton—I have said that if the gentleman *thinks* that it is such, he can admit the evidence.

The Alderman—I sustain the objection.

Mr. Hampton—I cannot ask that question then, without how much he was worth before going into the Legislature?

The Alderman—No, sir.

Mr. Hampton—Mr. Quay, when did you purchase the lot on which you are erecting that building?

A.—I never bought it at all; my mother-in-law conveyed it to my wife last fall.

Q.—Who is building the house on the lot?

A.—I am, sir; Messrs. Monroe, Miller & Co. are the contractors.

Q.—What's the contract price?

A.—$13,000.

Q.—The legal title of the deed is in your wife's name?

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Col. Quay, is there anything in that article of the 9th, just read by Mr. Swartzwelder, which leads you to believe that you answer the description of a person alluded to in it, excepting the reference about the building which you are erecting?

Mr. Swartzwelder—Put down the question.

A.—No, sir; only that the editor of the COMMERCIAL had been engaged in a controversy with me touching the Treasurership.

Mr. Marshall—Is the question in writing; we want the exact language.

Mr. Hampton—Go on with your answer.

The witness—Then the whole thing hangs upon that; it indicates who is meant by what follows: that is the extract from the *Argus*, which I have been informed has been taken from the *Argus*, and the building matter had been left out, I do not think I would have known who was referred to me. I might have supposed from previous personalities that he meant me.

Q.—I ask you this question, if there had been no allusion to the building, is there anything else in that article that you could have construed it so as to mean you?

A.—Apart from the personalities, I—

Q.—I want a direct answer.

A.—I do not think that I would ever have declared that the article was libelous, if it had not been for the allusion to the new building. At the present time, I would.

Mr. Hampton—Then I will take you back to the time when you first read the article. What was your impression then?

A.—The mere naked charges, without reference to the building, would never have caused me to think I was the man at all.

Q.—Prior to this, on what terms had you been with Mr. Brigham?

A.—On good terms.

Q.—Never had any personal quarrels?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—State whether, prior to the publication on the ninth, you were on good terms with Mr. Brigham personally.

A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—When did you become proprietor.

A.—Purchased it from the start.

Q.—How long since?

A.—About a year ago.

Q.—Did you buy out an established paper or start a new one?

A.—I purchased materials and established a paper.

Q.—How much did the paper cost you?

A.—About $5,500 or $6,000.

Q.—Was it established long?

A.—Yes, sir, for about 9 months, and upwards, I think.

Q.—Was the publication of the article, in question, the first publication of it?

A.—It is for the magistrate to say whether this case comes under the definition of this law of libel or not.

Mr. Marshall—I ask the magistrate to rule the point.

The Alderman—Do you object to the whole question?

Mr. Swartzwelder—Yes, sir.

The Alderman—I sustain the objection.

Mr. Hampton—You do not permit me to ask Mr. Quay about any charges he made in his newspaper controversy?

The Alderman—No, sir.

Q.—I propose to ask the witness if he did not attack Mr. Brigham through his newspaper before the 9th of December.

Mr. Marshall—I object.

Q.—Have you had a controversy with Mr. Brigham?

A.—I have already stated that I had.

Q.—What was the subject of that newspaper controversy?

Mr. Marshall—I object, because it would be the worst kind of hearsay.

Objection sustained.

Q.—Was this article given in the article copied from the Beaver *Argus*? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—When was it published? A.—Last Wednesday week.

Q.—You read it when it appeared in the paper? A.—Yes, sir.

Q.—Did you make information against the editor of the *Argus* for libel? A.—No, sir; I brought a civil action.

Mr. Hampton here stated that he could not possibly get through with the cross-examination (it being now five o'clock) and asked that the case be continued until to-day.

After some controversy in regard to hearing two witnesses from Beaver, who wished to get home, to which Mr. Hampton objected, because he did not wish to have his cross examination thrown upon, (the Magistrate ordered the hearing to be continued until this afternoon, at three o'clock.

Consecration of a New Chapel.

The Chapel on Marion avenue, Allegheny, nearly in front of the Penitentiary, will be consecrated to-morrow. It was erected by the First Reformed Church. This church was formerly known by the name of "The German Reformed Church," but by the action of the recent General Synod the "German" character was dropped as not originally belonging to the name, so that it is now to be known as the Reformed Church in the United States. This chapel is of the gothic style, and is very handsomely furnished. The windows are of beautifully colored glass, each adapted with an appropriate emblem. The pews are elegantly upholstered with morocn, and the floor covered with a neat carpet. The arrangement of the channel is also very fine. There will be services three times during the day, the whining occasion the Rev. J. O. Miller, a talented pulpit orator of New York, will preach. The Sunday School service in the afternoon will be interesting.

List of Unmailable Letters.

The following is a list of letters lying at the Pittsburgh office for want of pre-payment of postage and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

	Cents.
Balch, D W, New York	3
Bash, Gustavious, Connellsville, Pa	3
Corbit, J. J., Allegheny, Pa	3
Eisner, Lewis, New Castle	3
Godey, Louis A., Philadelphia, Pa	3
Grenet, J. H., Allegheny, Pa	3
McCwan & Shyder, Allegheny, Pa	3
Townsen, H. E., Apollo, Pa	3

THE PUBLIC HOSPITAL.—A committee consisting of Messrs. Henry Lambert, Controller, Archibald Pillow, Commissioner, Dr. Thomas Shaw, of the Pittsburgh Board of Guardians, Mr. Murdock, of the Allegheny Poor Directors, and R. H. Davis, of the County Home, have been appointed to ascertain whether the use of the old Ninth Ward Hospital cannot be obtained as a general hospital for county purposes.

A FAMILY BIBLE for a holiday present is always acceptable. They can be found in beautiful bindings, at reasonable prices, at S. A. Clarke & Co's, 19 Wood street.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Sterrett.

FAILED TO AGREE.

The case of the Common wealth vs. William Heckert, charged with the larceny of a lot of wool, was submitted to the jury, but, there being some uncertainty as to the identity of the wool alleged to have been stolen, the jury failed to agree and were discharged.

AT LAST!—ARNOLD AND HARTMAN PLEAD GUILTY, AND ARE SENTENCED TO FOURTEEN YEARS AND TEN MONTHS EACH IN THE PENITENTIARY.

The District Attorney then called up the cases against William Arnold and Leonard Hartman, whose operate assaults on Tuesday last created such a sensation in the community.

The prisoners were brought into the Court and placed in the dock; and the court room, which had been crowded at the opening, in anticipation of these trials, now became densely packed, and the greatest curiosity was manifested to see the desperadoes. Arnold marched in boldly enough, but Hartman, owing to the pain from a gun-shot wound in the leg, had to be assisted and limped along.

Mr. Haines, counsel for Hartman, stated to the Court that, in treasons may be drawn in the year of grace 1870, and how easily, and in what numbers as may rear his household idols from the shelves of his library case. Let us now down, for instance, some of the choice works we glean over the other day during a brief stay in S. A. Clarke & Co.'s establishment.

Holiday rambles are always pleasant to us, but they are never more so than when scanning the literary treasures the new year brings to us. In the collection of recent publications which promise a rare treat, We pick up at random, "Female Characters of Goethe," delineated by Kaulbauch. The mere association of the names is sufficient to excite the lover of art and literature. What been must the contents promise! We lay it aside for a more favorable opportunity. "Beautiful Women" next attracts our attention. In a modern work on Portraits by such as Reynolds, Gainsborough, Lawrence, Gilbert Stuart Newton, Lantseer, and others whose names are first on the list of English and "Historical Costumes," embracing all the vicissitudes of fashion in female attire down to 1861, obtained from authentic sources, is a rare work, one that is exceedingly choice for the center table, and besides its value from a historical point, is both instructive and admirable. The pictures are exquisitely done. Turning from it to the "Parables of Christ" illuminated, we are lost in admiration at the moment's time to our early training. Illuminated Missals possess a charm for us that is never more potent than when dealing with re-presential subjects. "Didacula Religiosa" is a collection of "original, and choice selections, which at a glance at which is sufficient to excite a smile—a book calculated for old and young. Peculiarly enough, close beside it lies a tiny "History of Albrecht Durer," with a translation of his letters and diary. The student of art will be sure less for the rich illustrations scattered through the volume to find a place for Durer stands up like a giger-post on the highway of art. The most we see of Durer's works illustrated by Dore. If anything can enhance Cervantes, it is the genius of a great artist, as we see it in the broad, bold pictures. One of the most attractive works we have yet examined, "Wise Words," a gift holiday book is "Commander's Parables" pictures, historical, preserving close to the text of the charming relations which have rendered the author's name a household word in every family. It is a volume that no useful knowledge to the fair sex is to be found in "The Ladies Book of Needle work," a glance at its contents shows that it encroaches everything in embroidery, knitting, crocheting, &c. The book is one that would greee any table. "The World of Wonders" treats of the great inventions and discoveries found in nature—an excellent present for young instructive, entertaining and useful to readers of all ages, "Fairy Realm" by Hood, illustrated by Dore, this is a book for a boy or girl. Among the other choice treasures, "Swiss Scenery" carries one abroad, out of the work-a-day world up into the atmosphere of the Alps. The plates are the perfection of art, the selections judicious, the accompanying descriptions graphic, giving the reader a perfect idea of the scenery illustrated by Dore, who, selecting the author's choice poems, presents the public with the richest volume from them. The first edition, that of "The Bridge of sighs," shows us something that we did not think Dore possessed; the study is a poem in itself, softened, tender and heart-pressing. "Women of the Bible" is a masterpiece of art, and a model of beauty. Viewed either as a literary, artistic, or mechanical performance, it is simply superb. A book specially adapted to Christian circles, "Dante" and "The Legend of the Wandering Jew," both illustrated by Dore, and both elegant volumes, beautiful as they are, do not approach "Tennyson's Idyls of the King," as illustrated by the same artist. This magnificent work exhibits the extraordinary genius of Dore as perhaps any other production. It was reserved for the last Hood. The work may be had in one or four volumes. The admirers of Poe will find in the new and handsome edition of his works by Patton, McWhirter, Stanton, Palmer, Hay, and other contributors, a rare gift to them. "Beauties of English Scenery; Ireland and its Scenery, Character, Historical Associations, and "The Lakes of England," all beautifully illustrated, with descriptive text, are destined to be popular holiday books. "Legends of Land Gerolstine" with full page illustrations by Heinesay, which, if it were possible, render the poem even more picturesque and powerful. "Songs of the Sea," by the leading poets of the prominent American draughtsmen, will not be prized as much for the selections as the list of illustrations. A complete treasury if illustrated works under the title of "The Universe," brings before the reader the animal, vegetable and mineral Kingdom, treats of Geology, and has selections from a wide range of subjects discussed as its title indicates.

Set apart a little, we discover an elegant edition of the standard English and American poets, finely illustrated, put on tinted paper, finely printed, and bound in the most elegant style, especially adapted for holiday presents, and for the centre table, we find the works of Riverside, Knickerbocker and people's editions of Irving, followed by the latest editions of Cobbett, Macaulay, Prescott, Motley, Irvin's Washington, Macaulay's History of England, North, Hume, Lamb—all the standard authors' in both the cheap and elegant editions of Shakespeare's complete works and the, in eight volumes, with large full-faced type, bound in morocco, in the most elegant style, and Audubon's works on the shelf.

Among books of devotional works comprise the latest publications. Side by side with these we find Bibles, The Book of Common Prayer, and selections from the best poets, Sunday Book of Poetry, "Hymns of the Ages," "Christ in Song," Hymns and Songs with the Sacred Poets, a new edition of "The Changed Cross," "Willis's Sacred Poems," "Songs of the Soul," and a large number of new books designed expressly for juvenile reading. Speaking of juveniles, reminds us of an appointment that absolutely occupies us first and last.

The list of juvenile books for 1870 is unusually large. The toy books are respondent in illustrations, and the reading matter in tales, "Keep's Fables," in words of one syllable, "Rosebud Garden of Girls," "Our Girl's Own Treasury," "Our Dumb Neighbors" (a beautifully illustrated book for children), "From the Manger to the Cross," "From the Cradle to Moses," "From Adam to Jesus," "Life in Words of Love," "Little Nan's Newsboys," "Look and Think," "The French Governess," "Yesterday and To-day," "Little Boatbuilder's Every Boy's Annual" (a delightful table, parables, and useful instruction), "Little Art Workers," "Little Boy's Delight," "Little Boy's Story" and "Uncle Frank's Home," "Uncle Frank's Pictures," "Little Ones' Picture," (picture puzzles), "The Little Object Teacher," "Little Pet's Primer," "Archie's Adventures," "The Centipedes" and "Arithmetic" are among the new holiday goods, at Macrum & Carlisle's, 27 Fifth avenue.

The assortment of ladies' work boxes, writing desks and portfolios is large and varied. At this season of the year, when we are all found in the photographic albums, tinted photographs, and the latest styles of frames and mats, we want goods. The stock of gold pens, pocket books and pocket knives, is complete, and as low as possible in every day use, comparatively speaking, is unlimited. In a word, it would be difficult to find a more select or better stock of the legitimate trade of a book store that is not to be found at Scott's, 75 Fifth avenue.

One word concerning the arrangement of albums, portfolios, &c., in the elegant and rich walnut brackets and fancy articles at 119 Wood street. Owing to the peculiar construction of the building, the best possible light is secured to examine the goods, which are arranged in separate departments in a systematic manner, affording the purchaser the greatest facility in exploring the mine of wealth. The entire establishment is in keeping, from the admirably arranged show window to the counters, tables and shelves of the upper rooms—clean, snug and inviting, with a cheerful look as attractive as the extensive collection of highly illuminated and superbly illustrated volumes that grace the counters.

HOLIDAY RAMBLES.

Presents for the New Year.

The white pages of another winter are rapidly unfolding; fine, powdery snow is now rolling over hill tops and through the valleys, with a noise like that of chariots, thrills, with his mighty blasts the pulses of the earth. The cold, crisp, clear atmosphere gives back in sharp, keen echoes, every tone of the stormy prophet of the dying year. As the loom of the year, working night and day, wears out the pale, cold patterns of the month, frost rises upon the sharp, wintry air the chime of Christmas bells, the muffled tread of pedestrians; the swelling and sinking, distant murmer of the city's pulse beating. The air is full of mirth and expectation, children shout their peans of triumph, for standing out boldly on the whitest pages of the year linking the old with the new, are the holidays. To more than children they bring a welcome rest from the dry-as-dust duties of every day life, brief interval in which all that is generous and noble, all that invests goodness with beauty, is shorn of the sordid line that too frequetly envelopes active life. Now is the season for good wishes, good deeds, and pleasant words. It is a pleasant thought to remember that as the white pages of another winter are sealed, they bear the imprint of friendly deeds, quick, warm sympathies, and closer bonds of affection.

Holiday rambles are rare provocatives to pleasant thoughts. The most confirmed cynic, or the most wretched misanthrope may determine for a single ramble the truthfulness of the saying "it is more blessed to give than receive." As an illustration of this proposition, let us ramble the streets in search of fifteen minutes in W. G. Dunseath's jewelry store, 56 Fifth avenue.

YOUNG GENT, to his companion, as they consulted over a collection of watches. "The assortment is unusually select for a lot of ladies gold watches. I admire those swiss watches in particular. Nothing could be in better taste. The execution is equal to the design. I presume from the tone of the proprietor that they make a specialty of this movement. What do you think of that?" Holding up a dainty trifle with a shell and scolloped, frosted and enamelled. As it glittered in the light, the friend cast on it a look of genuine pleasure. "I think it is a beauty—you may go farther and fare worse." "I have made up my mind," was the reply. "I have come here intending more to buy my liking since we began our search. Now, you want a ring. Let me show you some choice garments" Some of those stone setts are new to me. How do you like the Montana gold? It will not be difficult to select a suitable article in this assortment; most of the stock appears to be of a superior quality."

MIDDLE AGED GENT.—"Called to look at your United States watches, I'm a committee of one to select a suitable present for the conductor of the Blank train. Everybody tells me your United States watches are in great demand, and I suppose you can let me have one on reasonable terms."

YOUNG LADY, alone, and diffidently. "I see you keep a variety of gentleman's silver watches; I want to look at some of your fine *gold* watches, Swiss and American, and be sure it is the *best* that can be procured."

OLD LADY, looking over the solid silver ware, and addressing her companion. "A good article is worth a fair price; the new patterns are very pretty, but with the exception of those pale, pattern spoons, which I have somehow taken a fancy to, for my part I prefer that nearest the set—the one like that in the show-window." "Humph! The plainest pattern there would have been grand in our eyes when we were young, and the young folks will be pleased with any pattern in the case."

And so the vein of comments continued in other departments. We made a brief inventory of the plain, and ornate Swiss and American clocks; of the large assortment of thermometers and barometers of the gold, silver and steel spectacles (though we hope we may never be compelled to appreciate the best in Dunseath's cases, highly as they are spoken of) of the special solid silver tea sets, card cases, parian statuettes, and antique and grotesque framed ornaments, and then we found ourselves back at the jewelry cases, again examining the latest novelties in ladies bracelets, sets, and rings, from the contemplation of which we were called by the "Blue-bells of Scotland" that healed forth from a blurry at the door box as though thankful of the opportunity to air themselves at the option of a possible purchaser. We have intimated that our appreciation of optical goods, outside of opera-glasses is not to be relied upon, but in the matter of goods intended exclusively for the ear, such as music boxes we are blessed with a finer discrimination, and the tones of the instruments at Dunseath's are such as are to be found only in the finest and best exact specimens of workmanship. We came away with the cadence of a gem from Il Trovatore floating round us.

In conclusion we would advise those of our readers who may contemplate purchasing presents for the New Year either in the shape of elegant, reliable time pieces, fine jewelry, solid